

Sandy Shuffle

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican presidential challenger Mitt Romney edged back into active campaigning in the aftermath of superstorm Sandy, confronting the awkward challenge of keeping up momentum a week before Election Day without appearing callous about the devastation. While the mammoth storm that ravaged the U.S. East Coast jolted the campaigns of both candidates, it presented a tougher problem for the Republican. President Barack Obama canceled his campaign appearances at least through Wednesday but is staying in the public eye as com-



Mitt Romney participates in a campaign event collecting supplies for victims of superstorm Sandy in Kettering, Ohio, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

mander of federal relief efforts. He visited the American Red Cross headquarters on Tuesday and travels to New Jersey on Wednesday to view damage and comfort people recovering from the storm. The president even received rare praise from Republican governor of New Jersey, Chris Christie, a Romney supporter, for his management of the disaster.

Continued on page 4



A portion of the Atlantic City, N.J. boardwalk, lower right, in the northern inlet section near the Revel Casino, top right, is washed away after superstorm Sandy moved through the Jersey shore area, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012.

(AP Photo/Clem Murray)

Sandy's rage leaves millions without power

NEW YORK (AP) — The most devastating storm in decades to hit the most densely populated U.S. region cut off modern communication and left millions without power Tuesday, as thousands who fled their waterlogged homes wondered when — if — life would return to normal.

A weakening Sandy, the hurricane turned fearsome superstorm, killed at least 50 people, many hit by falling trees, and still wasn't finished. It inched inland across Pennsylvania, ready to bank toward western New York state to dump more of its water and likely cause more havoc Tuesday night. Behind it: a dazed, inundated New York City,

a drenched Atlantic Coast and a moonscape of disarray and debris — from unmoored shore-town boardwalks to submerged mass-transit systems to delicate presidential politics.

"Nature," said New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, assessing the damage to his city, "is an awful lot more powerful than we are." More than 8.2 million households were without power in 17 states as far west as Michigan. Nearly 2 million of those were in New York, where large swaths of lower Manhattan lost electricity and entire streets ended up under water — as did seven subway tunnels between Manhattan and Brooklyn

at one point, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority said. The New York Stock Exchange was closed for a second day from weather, the first time that has happened since a blizzard in 1888. The city's subway system, the lifeblood of more than 5 million residents, was damaged like never before and closed indefinitely, and Consolidated Edison said electricity in and around New York could take a week to restore.

"Everybody knew it was coming. Unfortunately, it was everything they said it was," said Sal Novello, a construction executive who rode out the storm with his wife, Lori, in the Long Island town of Linden-

hurst, and ended up with 7 feet (2.1 meters) of water in the basement.

The scope of the storm's damage wasn't known yet. Though early predictions of river flooding in Sandy's inland path were petering out, colder temperatures made snow the main product of Sandy's slow march from the sea. Parts of the West Virginia mountains were blanketed with 2 feet (0.6 meters) of snow by Tuesday afternoon, and drifts 4 feet (1.2 meters) deep were reported at Great Smoky Mountains National Park on the Tennessee-North Carolina border in the South.

Continued on next page

Sandy's rage leaves millions without power

Continued from front-

With Election Day a week away, the storm also threatened to affect the presidential campaign. Federal disaster response, always a dicey political issue, has become even thornier since government mismanagement of Hurricane Katrina, which devastated the Gulf Coast in 2005.

And poll access and voter turnout, both of which hinge upon how people are impacted by the storm, could help shift the outcome in an extremely close race.

As organized civilization came roaring back Tuesday in the form of emergency response, recharged mobile phones and the reassurance of daylight, harrowing stories emerged in the hours after Sandy's howling winds and tidal surges shoved water over seaside barriers, into low-lying streets and up

from coastal storm drains. By Tuesday afternoon, there were still only hints of the economic impact of the storm. Airports re-

get where they were going. Forecasting firm IHS Global Insight predicted the storm will end up causing about

losses up to \$15 billion — big numbers probably offset by reconstruction and repairs that will contribute to longer-term growth.

movies. In Atlantic City, New Jersey, a gaping hole remained where once a stretch of boardwalk sat by the sea. In Queens, New York, rubble from a fire that destroyed as many as 100 houses in an evacuated beachfront neighborhood jutted into the air at ugly angles against a gray sky. In heavily flooded Hoboken, New Jersey, across the Hudson River from Manhattan, dozens of yellow cabs sat parked in rows, submerged in murky water to their windshields.

At the ground zero construction site in lower Manhattan, sea water rushed into a gaping hole under harsh floodlights.

One of the most dramatic tales came from lower Manhattan, where a failed backup generator forced New York University's Tisch Hospital to relocate more than 200 patients, including 20 babies from neonatal intensive care. □



This photo made available by the New Jersey Governor's Office shows damage to the boardwalk in Seaside, N.J. on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012 after superstorm Sandy made landfall on the Jersey shore Monday evening.

(AP Photo/Tim Larsen)

Images from around the storm-affected areas depicted scenes reminiscent of big-budget disaster

mained closed across the East Coast and far beyond as tens of thousands of travelers found they couldn't

\$20 billion in damages and \$10 billion to \$30 billion in lost business. Another firm, AIR Worldwide, estimated

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US, EU hopeful of new Iran nuke talks

BRADLEY KLAPPER

Associated Press

PRISTINA, Kosovo (AP) — The U.S. and the European Union said Tuesday they'll

icy chief Catherine Ashton said both diplomacy and pressure would continue until Iran makes significant concessions over its dis-

Still, there appeared to be no significant advance in the process since world powers instructed Ashton last month in New York to

speak with Jalili and gauge Iran's seriousness on coming into compliance with its international nuclear negotiations.

The West fears Iran may be trying to develop nuclear weapons, a charge Tehran denies.

The West has demanded that Iran must stop enriching uranium to 20 percent purity, shut down its underground Fordo enrichment site and ship its 20 percent stockpile out of the country. In return, Iran has been offered civilian plane spare parts and 20 percent-enriched nuclear fuel for its medical research reactor in Tehran.

Clinton said the U.S. message to Iran is clear.

"The window remains open

to resolve the international community's concerns about your nuclear program diplomatically and to relieve your isolation, but that window cannot remain open indefinitely. Therefore, we hope that there can be serious good-faith negotiations commenced soon."

Iran has sent mixed signals on its nuclear program. World powers cited increased flexibility from Iran in September when they agreed to lay the groundwork for a new round of negotiations, and on Tuesday Iran's Foreign Ministry said the standoff could be resolved if the U.S. and its partners recognize Iran's right to produce nuclear fuel. □



Kosovo President Atifete Jahjaga, front 2nd left, speaks with US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, left, as Minister for European Integration of the Republic of Kosovo Vjola Cimitaku, right, speaks with High Representative for EU Foreign Policy Catherine Ashton, 2nd right, upon Clinton and Ashton's arrival at Pristina International Airport on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012. Clinton and European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said both diplomacy and pressure would continue until Iran makes significant concessions over its disputed uranium enrichment activity.

(AP Photo)

press on with sanctions against Iran, even as they hope the promise of new negotiations could lead to a diplomatic solution ending the nuclear standoff. Appearing together at a news conference in the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo before continuing a joint tour of the Balkans in Serbia and Kosovo, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and EU foreign pol-

puted uranium enrichment activity.

"We continue to try and find ways to move forward on our negotiations," Ashton told reporters in Sarajevo. She cited contact over the weekend between a top aide and an assistant to Iran's chief nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili, and said she would be reaching out to Jalili "in the near future."

Incoming Dutch government ditches national "weed pass"

AMSTERDAM (AP) — The incoming Dutch government has ditched plans for a national "weed pass" that would have been available only to residents and that would have effectively banned tourists from Amsterdam's marijuana cafes. However, under a provisional governing pact unveiled this week, cities can bar foreigners from weed shops if they choose.

The pact says that it wants only Dutch residents to have access to marijuana

cafes, but leaves enforcement up to cities. Amsterdam opposes a ban, which would hurt tourism.

Some cafe owners said Tuesday that they are satisfied Dutch weed policy will remain unchanged, while others criticized the lack of clarity.

Marijuana trafficking is technically illegal in the Netherlands, but people can't be prosecuted for possession of small amounts and the drug is sold openly in designated "coffee shops." □

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Romney dances tightrope in storm's wake

Continued from front

"It stops the campaign more or less dead in its tracks," said Republican pollster and strategist Mike McKenna, who doesn't work for the Romney campaign. "A pause always helps the guys on defense. It helps the Obama guys catch their breath a little bit and think about what to do next."



Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney lifts bottles of water to load into a truck as he participates in a campaign event collecting supplies from residents and local relief organizations for victims of superstorm Sandy, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012, at the James S. Trent Arena in Kettering, Ohio.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

McKenna says Romney shouldn't take much time off and should instead focus on key states outside the storm zone. "Start off with a prayer for the people in New York and New Jersey, definitely do that, but don't stop attacking. Try to keep your momentum through this," McKenna said. Romney wavered in his strategy. First the cam-

paign said he would skip a rally in Ohio on Tuesday out of sympathy for the storm victims. Then Romney decided to do the event but recast it as a storm-relief effort, shorn of the usual campaign speech. "It's part of the American spirit, the American way, to give to people in need," Romney told supporters in Kettering, Ohio, before they

lined up to hand him bags of canned food for storm victims. Romney planned three campaign events in Florida on Wednesday, trying not to lose momentum in his push to move ahead in the few tight state races expected to decide the election. The U.S. president is chosen not by the nationwide popular vote but in state-by-state contests. That has made a handful

of states whose voters are neither reliably Republican nor Democratic the focus of the Nov. 6 election, expected to be one of the closest in U.S. history. Ohio and Florida are prominent among those. Adding to his dilemma are Romney's previous statements on the federal government's role in emergency management. He said he believes state and local governments should have primary responsibility for emergency cleanup, and refused Tuesday to answer repeated questions from reporters about how he would run the Federal Emergency Management Agency if he wins the election. Asked about federal aid to help recover and rebuild from Sandy, Romney spokeswoman Amanda Henneberg said: "A Romney-Ryan administration will always ensure that disaster funding is there for those in need. Period." For Obama, missing a few days of active campaigning for vital presidential duties may be a good trade, politically speaking. Linger- ing anger about the previous president's performance when Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans provides a backdrop that will benefit Obama if his administration does a solid job, said Kathleen Hall Jamieson, director of the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center. □

U.S. Briefs

Cops: PA drunken woman tried to 'save' wild ducks

GLEN ROCK, Pennsylvania (AP) — A U.S. woman faces charges that include risking a catastrophe after she jumped into a raging creek to "save" a couple dozen wild ducks from the superstorm. Southern Regional Police in York County said Justina Laniewski went into a Pennsylvania creek on Monday evening, and her toddler started to follow her. A neighbor grabbed the child, but it took firefighters from a nearby station to rescue Laniewski from neck-high waters. She was also charged with reckless endangerment, disorderly conduct and public drunkenness. Southern Regional Sgt. Darryl Smuck says a breath test showed Laniewski's alcohol level was more than twice the legal limit for driving. A phone listing for her couldn't be located. □

Karate student decks drunk intruder in Calif. apartment

FRESNO, California (AP) — A California man was pummeled by a karate student who police say found the drunken intruder in her bathroom. Jannine Ramirez had just won a karate competition when she arrived at her apartment and heard 18-year-old Wilberto Zapata moving about her apartment in a drunken stupor. Police say Zapata recently moved into the apartment complex and must have mistakenly went into the wrong apartment unit early Sunday. The Fresno Bee says the 20-year-old woman knocked down the bathroom door and kicked the stranger through a shower door before landing a series of punches until he was out of the apartment. Zapata was cited for unlawful entry into a home and released. □

Suspect in Venetian casino chip theft arrested in Calif.

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A man suspected of sneaking into a restricted area of the Venetian resort and stealing \$1.6 million in casino chips was arrested in Southern California, Las Vegas police said Tuesday. Authorities credited media attention about the case for a tip that led them to Palmdale resident Akingide Cole, 31. Deputies from the San Bernardino and Los Angeles county sheriff's offices took Cole into custody on Oct. 24, near his mother's home. Cole was being sought for investigation of grand larceny, burglary and possession of burglary tools, and is expected to be extradited to Nevada. He is listed at a Los Angeles jail, but jail officials didn't immediately respond to requests seeking to determine if he has an attorney. Police didn't disclose exactly how the theft at the Las Vegas Strip resort occurred, but they said no weapon was involved, and the suspect didn't confront anyone during the incident about 6 a.m. Oct. 10. □

Lawyer for N.Y. man suing Facebook wants out of case

BUFFALO, New York (AP) — The latest lawyer to represent a New York man in what authorities now say is a fraudulent lawsuit against Facebook wants off the case. Ohio attorney Dean Boland moved Tuesday in federal court in Buffalo to withdraw as Paul Ceglia's lawyer. Boland's motion doesn't say why he wants off the case, but it says it has nothing to do with any belief that Ceglia engaged in fraud. Boland is among more than a half dozen lawyers and law firms who've signed on to represent Ceglia and then pulled out. Ceglia's 2010 lawsuit claims half-ownership of Menlo Park, California-based Facebook based on a 2003 contract with founder Mark Zuckerberg. □

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US teen convicted in deadly Craigslist scheme



Brogan Rafferty looks on in the courtroom of Judge Lynn S. Callahan in the Summit County Courthouse on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012 in Akron, Ohio after a jury reached a guilty verdict on all accounts in the Craigslist murder trial. Rafferty, an Ohio teenager taken under the wing of a man defense attorneys described as a master manipulator was found guilty of aggravated murder Tuesday for his role in a deadly plot to lure men desperate for work with phony Craigslist job offers.
(AP Photo/Phil Masturzo, Pool)

ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS
AP Legal Affairs Writer
AKRON, Ohio (AP) — A teenager was found guilty of aggravated murder Tuesday for his role in a deadly plot to lure men desperate for work with phony Craigslist job offers. Prosecutors in the week-long trial painted 17-year-old Brogan Rafferty of the state of Ohio as a quick student of violence and

willing participant in three killings, while the defense argued he was acting under the duress of his alleged accomplice, a self-styled chaplain depicted as a mentor. Authorities say Rafferty, of Stow, helped Richard Beasley, of Akron, lure four victims at separate times with bogus Craigslist job offers to a nonexistent cattle farm in rural Noble County in southeast Ohio; they say the motive was robbery. Authorities say Beasley shot and killed three of the men; the fourth victim was shot in the arm and survived. Rafferty stood with his hands clasped behind his back and showed no emotion as the verdicts were read. His mother leaned over and cried softly. Led from the courtroom,

Rafferty shook his head and said, "Nothing to say." He didn't respond to reporters' questions about the verdict. Rafferty had testified that he didn't want to be a part of such violence and said he went along with the plan only because he feared for his life. Rafferty was tried as an adult but faces a maximum potential sentence of life in prison because he is a juvenile. His sentencing is set for Nov. 5. Beasley, 53, has pleaded not guilty and could face the death penalty if convicted at his separate trial. Jurors reached the verdict on their fourth day of deliberations, convicting Rafferty of three counts of aggravated murder and one count of attempted murder. □

Mexican man pleads guilty in killing U.S. border agent

JACQUES BILLEAUD
Associated Press
PHOENIX (AP) — A Mexican man pleaded guilty Tuesday in the killing of a U.S. Border Patrol agent whose death revealed the botched "Fast and Furious" gun-smuggling operation, marking the biggest conviction to date in a case that embarrassed the federal government and prompted a series of congressional investigations. In his guilty plea, Manuel Osorio-Arellanes admitted that he was part of a rip-off crew that sneaked into the United States from Mexico about a week before the death of Agent Brian Terry. They stashed guns and food supplies on the U.S. side of the border and killed Terry as they searched for marijuana smugglers to rob. Authorities haven't said which member of the rip-off crew was believed to have fired the fatal shot at Terry on Dec. 14, 2010. Of the five men charged in Terry's murder, only two are in custody, while three others remain fugitives. Prosecutors agreed not to seek the death penalty against Osorio-Arellanes, who could face life in prison for the first-degree murder conviction. Terry's death lifted the veil on the bungled federal government's gun-smuggling investigation that was later the subject of congressional probes. Federal authorities have faced heavy criticism for allowing suspected straw gun buyers to walk away from shops with weapons, rather than arrest the suspects and seize the guns there. Two rifles bought by a gun-smuggling ring that was being monitored through "Fast and Furious" were found at the scene. □

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New Mexico:

Hazardous release sickens 200

JUAN CARLOS LLORCA

Associated Press

SANTA TERESA, New Mexico (AP) — Authorities in the state of New Mexico say an unknown hazardous material release sickened about 200 people Tuesday near the Mexican border just northwest of El Paso, Texas. A one-mile area surrounding the industrial park and

border crossing at Santa Teresa was evacuated for a few hours Tuesday, and the nearby airport was closed.

By Tuesday afternoon, only the industrial park remained off-limits as hazmat crews took samples to determine what made the people sick.

A New Mexico National

Guard support team was en route to help with monitoring and testing. Officials say some people from businesses in the industrial park were taken to Santa Teresa High School as a precaution after complaining of breathing problems, light-headedness, nausea and dizziness. Some people also de-



A police officer blocks an intersection outside the Santa Teresa Industrial Park in Santa Teresa, N.M. on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012. The industrial park near the border crossing at Santa Teresa was evacuated and the nearby airport was closed because of an unknown hazardous material release that sickened about 200

scribed a burning sensation on their skin.

"I got there after they barricaded the road. When I rolled down the window, I started feeling irritation on my skin," said Gerardo Gomez, who was on his way to

work. "It felt like when you get chile on your skin."

Workers a few miles away said they could smell something in the air.

No serious injuries were reported and no one was hospitalized. □

Diplomat: Texas agents should have seen people

CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN

Associated Press

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — Texas law enforcement agents were close enough to a pickup truck to see it was carrying people, not drugs, before one opened fire, killing two Guatemalan immigrants, a diplomat said Tuesday.

Texas Department of Public Safety officials have said the helicopter crew believed the truck was carrying a drug load under a cover in the vehicle's bed and they shot to stop it. But after interviewing seven surviving illegal immigrants, Alba Caceres, Guatemala's consul in McAllen, said there was agreement that the helicopter was up to 600 feet (180 meters) away when a trooper in-

side fired in an attempt to disable the fleeing vehicle. She said the trooper should have been able to see the people inside.

"They all saw it (the helicopter)," Caceres said. "All of them, including those riding up front because they were stuck against the window." Along with the driver, four passengers were riding in the cab — three of them crammed behind the front seat, she said. The other six passengers, including the two who were killed, were in the truck's bed, covered with a sheet. Caceres had said Monday that her skepticism was building that a helicopter could fire on a vehicle without seeing people stuffed into the cabin and bed. □

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Blizzard warnings sound as Appalachia storm blows

By VICKI SMITH
Associated Press
ELKINS, W.Va. (AP) — Wet snow and high winds spinning off the edge of superstorm Sandy spread blizzard conditions over parts of West Virginia and neighboring Appalachian states Tuesday, shutting one interstate as trucks and cars bogged down and knocking out power to many. The National Weather Service said a foot and more of snow was reported in lower elevations of West Virginia, where most towns and roads are. High elevations in the mountains were getting more than two feet and a blizzard warning for more than a dozen counties was in effect until Wednesday afternoon.

At least 236,000 customers were without power in West Virginia early Tuesday. In Elkins, a city of about 7,000 people, power went out across town before dawn and the only lights were from passing snow plows as heavy, wet flakes piled up to about 8 inches. The roofs of at least three homes collapsed under



Tractor trailer traffic was halted along Interstate 68 in Frostburg, Md., Tuesday morning, Oct. 30, 2012 due to the storm. Wet snow and high winds spinning off the edge of superstorm Sandy spread blizzard conditions over parts of West Virginia and neighboring Appalachian states Tuesday. Authorities closed nearly 50 miles of Interstate 68 on either side of the West Virginia-Maryland state line because of blizzard conditions and stuck cars. Eastbound lanes in Maryland were later reopened. (AP Photo/Steven Bittner)

the weight of heavy snow, Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin said. No injuries were reported in the Tuesday accidents in Nicholas County. West Virginia National Guard troops helped the residents of the homes get to local shelters. Tomblin says there's been no word of additional deaths or any serious injuries. Officials earlier reported a woman was killed Monday in a storm-related traffic accident in an area where about 5 inches of snow had fallen. The governor is urging resi-

dents to stay off the roads. That will prevent mishaps and allow National Guard, Division of Highways and Division of Forestry crews to clear felled trees for utility repair workers. Tomblin says forecasters estimate that the storm's brunt should clear the state by nightfall. Authorities closed nearly 50 miles of Interstate 68 on either side of the West Virginia-Maryland state line for hours early Tuesday because of blizzard conditions and stuck vehicles. □



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Warning of 'chaos', Greece delays austerity vote

DEREK GATOPOULOS

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Greece's coalition government will delay a vote on major new austerity measures by another week, warning Tuesday there would be financial chaos if a deal is not reached.

Finance Minister Yannis Stournaras told reporters the austerity measures, worth €13.5 billion (\$17.4 billion), would be submitted to parliament next week, as the three parties in government continue to disagree over new savings demanded by international bailout lenders.

Stournaras denied local media reports that the bill could be broken up to ease objections by a left-wing ju-

nior coalition partner. "All of the (draft legislation) will be submitted next week. I think there is no other way to do it," he said.

Greece's bailout creditors want the austerity package passed if they are to hand over more loans that Greece needs to avoid bankruptcy.

Greece's conservative Prime Minister Antonis Samaras is at odds with the Democratic Left party, a coalition partner that is threatening to vote against the new austerity measures unless labor reforms included in them are scrapped. Samaras formed a coalition with the traditional rival Socialists and the Democratic Left after general elections in June.

In a statement, the prime minister said he had "exhausted all the available time" to try and reach a consensus.

"The problem is not wheth-

er we (introduce) this mea-

sure or that measure. On the contrary: It is what we would do if no agreement is reached and the country

is led into chaos."

Unemployment in Greece has topped 25 percent, with rapidly worsening poverty that has prompted the Democratic Left to harden

ber of the Democratic Left party, told private Skai television.

"The dilemma is with Mr. Samaras. Does he want a left-wing party in his government or not? Does he want our consent on certain issues, or does he want to proceed alone? If he wants, he may proceed alone."

Cracks in Greece's coalition government are likely to be tested on Wednesday when lawmakers are set to vote on a privatization bill. The new law would give the government broader powers to privatize public utilities, but is facing growing dissent from deputies in the Socialist party and Democratic Left.

Also Wednesday, Stournaras will present the new draft state budget for 2013. The country's two biggest labor unions have called a central Athens rally in the evening, to protest the new austerity measures. □



A woman passes an array of displays at the Stock Exchange in Athens Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012. Shares recovered slightly from heavy losses Monday, amid continued uncertainty over a new austerity package due to divisions in the country's coalition government. Conservative Prime Minister Antonis Samaras said Tuesday that the government had essentially ended negotiations on new austerity measures and warned of "chaos" if the reforms are not passed. (AP Photo/Thanassis Stavrakis)

er we (introduce) this measure or that measure. On the contrary: It is what we would do if no agreement is reached and the country

its position.

"There are certain issues for us that are fundamental — like labor issues," Theodoros Margaritis, a senior mem-

Syria activists: 23 dead in Damascus

BEN HUBBARD

Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Airstrikes by Syrian jets and shells from tanks leveled a neighborhood in a restive city near the capital of Damascus on Tuesday, killing 18 people, and at least five rebel fighters died nearby in clashes with regime troops, activists said.

The airstrikes on the city of Douma, northeast of the capital, left residents scampering over a huge expanse of rubble and using their hands to dig up mangled bodies, according to activist videos posted online. Scenes of vast destruction like those from Douma on Tuesday have grown more common as rebels seeking to topple President Bashar Assad have made gains on the ground, and Assad's forces have responded with overwhelming air power.

In the past weeks, anti-regime activists say about 150 people have been killed a day in fighting. Since the uprising against Assad began in March 2011, they say 35,000 have died. Tuesday's airstrikes came a day after what activists called the heaviest and

most widespread bombing campaign nationwide, on what was to be the final day of an internationally sanctioned truce that never took hold.

The death toll for what was supposed to be a four-day cease-fire ending Monday exceeded 500.

Activists speculated that the government's heavy reliance on air power reflected its inability to roll back rebel gains, especially in the north of the country near the border with Turkey, where rebels have control of swathes of territory.

The international community remains at a loss about how to stop the Syria violence. The U.S. and other Western and Arab nations have called on Assad to step down, while Russia, China and Iran continue to back him.

In the latest fighting after nightfall Tuesday, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said 18 civilians were killed in an airstrike and tank fire Tuesday in the Hajariyeh neighborhood in the suburb of Douma, northeast of Damascus. □

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Protests, chaos delay vote on new Libyan Cabinet

ESAM MOHAMED

Associated Press

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Libya's new prime minister on Tuesday put forward a Cabinet for parliamentary approval, but protesters stormed the building during the session, forcing a postponement of the vote on the new government.

Around 100 protesters, a mix of bearded civilians and self-proclaimed rebels, broke into the hall during a session in which Ali Zidan, the new prime minister, was telling the National General Congress that he tried to strike a geographic balance among different regions and cities.

The protesters faced little resistance as they entered, and a local TV station showed video of the break-in before it went off air. The protesters had various complaints about the nominated ministers, including that some had connections to the ousted regime of dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

Interim President Mohammed al-Megarif talked to the protesters, and they left the hall. Then they returned, forcing the parliament to postpone the vote on the new Cabinet until Wednesday.

"Let Libyans know the atmosphere in which we operate," al-Megarif said. "The least we can say about what happened is that it is pressure on the Congress members." He said criticism of the Cabinet was welcomed but appealed for a peaceful expression of opinion.

"The Congress represents legitimacy in this country," he said.

A year after the overthrow and death of Gadhafi, Libyans are seeking a broader distribution of political power among the country's three main regions, after

decades of domination and discrimination by the dictator's highly centralized state based in the capital, Tripoli. The new Cabinet faces the herculean task of reigning in a mushrooming number of armed groups, filled mostly with former rebel fighters who defeated Gadhafi's forces during last year's eight-month civil war. The government must also build state institutions such as the judiciary, police, military and others from scratch, and rebuild cities and towns demolished during the conflict.

Zidan, a former human rights lawyer chosen Oct. 14, is the second prime minister to be named by the 200-member parliament. Legislators dismissed his predecessor, Mustafa Abushaqr, after they said he had put forward unknown people for key Cabinet posts and proposed a government lacking diversity.

Zidan said he held talks with the country's political parties including the two biggest blocs in par-



A Libyan militiaman fires his weapon in the air in an attempt to force back protesters from in front of the gates of the parliament in Tripoli, Libya. One year on, the country is still trying to overcome the legacy of one of the most erratic leaders of modern times as well as a brutal eight month struggle that left the country awash in weapons, militias and very few viable institutions of the state. Libya's new prime minister on Tuesday put forward a Cabinet for parliamentary approval, but protesters stormed the building during the session, forcing a postponement of the vote on the new government. (AP/Paul Schemm)

liament, the Alliance of National Forces, led by liberal wartime Prime Minister Mahmoud Jibril, and the Muslim Brotherhood's political arm, the Justice and Construction Party. Such talks are seen important to ensure that his 27-member Cabinet lineup passes the vote of confidence.

The proposed Cabinet gives the interior and defense portfolios to ministers from Libya's second largest city, Benghazi, and reserves at least two posts for ministers from the third largest city, Misrata. Two proposed ministers are women. The protesters named the proposed foreign minister and religious endowment ministers as linked to Gadhafi's regime. The new Cabinet will also have to deal with the displacement of tens of thousands of residents of the western town of Bani Walid. The town, a stronghold of Gadhafi's loyalists, fell in a battle to pro-government forces last week. After rounding up a number of suspects, pro-government militias withdrew from the town. □

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Chinese ex-diplomat calls islands dispute a 'time bomb'

JANE PERLEZ

KEITH BRADSHAW

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HONG KONG — The United States created a "time bomb" between China and Japan by returning disputed islands to Japan instead of China in 1972, and there is now a danger of an explosion over the issue, a former senior longtime Chinese diplomat warned in a speech here on Tuesday. The diplomat, Chen Jian, a former undersecretary-general of the United Nations and former Chinese ambassador to Japan, said the U.S. should restrain Japan and should help bring about negotiations between China and Japan over the islands, known as

the Daiyou by China and the Senkaku by Japan. Chen said that the U.S. was trying to use Japan against

China and risked fanning a revival of Japanese militarism.

"The U.S. is urging Japan to

play a greater role in the region in security terms, not just in economic terms, which suits the purpose of the right wing in Japan more than perfectly — their long-held dream is now possible to be realized," he said.

Chen, whose speech was organized by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and who was accompanied by a half-dozen Chinese diplomats, also said discussions should start on ways to reduce the risk of clashes between Chinese and Japanese patrol vessels, which often come perilously close to each other in the waters off the islands. Some in China see the issue of the islands "as a time

bomb planted by the U.S. between China and Japan," he said, later adding, "that time bomb is now exploding or about to explode."

The U.S. has said that in the event of conflict, the islands are covered by the mutual defense treaty between Washington and Tokyo, a position that Beijing has severely criticized since the dispute flared anew last month.

"I would expect the U.S. would try to reduce tensions," said Chen, who is now dean of the School of International Studies at Renmin University in Beijing.

Chen's remarks, though from someone who has officially retired from the diplomatic service, are significant because they represent a detailed exposition of China's views at a time when Chinese officials have been wary of public comments.

The approach of the Communist Party Congress in Beijing on Nov. 8, which will usher in changes in China's top leadership, together with the increased pressure from nationalists in China and Japan, have resulted in only fleeting talks between Japan and China over the islands. □



One of the islands claimed by China and Japan, near the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands, 2012. On Oct. 30, Chen Jian, a former United Nations under secretary general from China, complained that Japan is being encouraged to take on security concerns, empowering the right wing in that country.

(Kosuke Okahara/The New York Times)

Filipino general: no hostages harmed in clash

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine marines made sure there were no foreign or Filipino hostages being held by a large group of Abu Sayyaf militants before engaging the al-Qaida-linked gunmen in a deadly battle, a military official said Tuesday. Marine commandant Maj. Gen. Rustico Guerrero said four marines and at least nine Abu Sayyaf militants and allied gunmen were killed in the six-hour gunbattle Sunday in a jungle near southern Sulu province's mountainous Patikul town. Twenty-two other marines were wounded.

Regional military spokesman Lt. Col. Randolph Cabangbang said the marines were deployed in Patikul's hinterlands to check reported sightings of long-held hostages of the Abu Sayyaf. The militants, notorious for abductions and beheadings, have been blamed for separate kidnappings of two Europeans, a Japanese, a Jordanian and two Filipinos. Military and police officials believe the six hostages are being held in Abu Sayyaf encampments in Patikul and nearby jungle areas.

A former Australian soldier who was kidnapped last December is also believed to be held by Abu Sayyaf gunmen in another southern province near Jolo Island in predominantly Muslim Sulu, about 950 kilometers (590 miles) south of Manila. Guerrero said the marines took steps to ensure there were no hostages being held by up to 150 Abu Sayyaf militants and allied gunmen before engaging the militants in the fierce battle. The marines got as close as 15 feet (4.5 meters) to the gunmen at one point, he said. □

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Bolivia radio host attacked

CARLOS VALDEZ

Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — A 70-year-old radio journalist was in stable condition Tuesday after masked men barged into his studio and set fire to it while he was on the air. Authorities said three men were arrested in Monday's attack on Fernando Vidal but were refusing to talk. Vidal was interviewing two women in Yacuiba, a city of 120,000 that borders Argentina, about alleged corruption among customs police when three masked men entered the studio of Radio Popular at midday, said his son-in-law, Esteban Farfan.

One splashed around gasoline, another set it alight and a third fired shots in the air, police said. Vidal was burned as he tried to intervene.

He was in intensive care Tuesday, in serious but stable condition with second-degree burns on his face and arms, at a hospital in the eastern city of Santa Cruz Tuesday, said his doctor, Javier Palenque.

A station technician, Karen Arce, also suffered less serious burns in the attack. She was driven the six hours with Vidal to Santa Cruz on Monday evening.

Vidal is a former Yacuiba mayor who uses his daily radio program to denounce corruption in a city that is along a cocaine smuggling route and where trade in contraband is rampant. □

Argentina's Clarin defiant

MICHAEL WARREN

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Grupo Clarin executives said Tuesday that they plan to exhaust every legal means possible of defying the Argentine government's Dec. 7 deadline for submitting plans to dismantle the media company that has become President Cristina Fernandez's leading critic.

The conglomerate is entirely focused on persuading the courts to extend an injunction barring enforcement of Argentina's law against media monopolies, company spokesman Martin Etchevers told foreign correspondents he invited to the headquarters of Clarin newspaper.

Grupo Clarin also owns television and radio stations, creates broadcast content, and provides access through its cable network to television channels and the Internet.

Argentina's congress passed a media reform law three years ago in the name of encouraging diversity in the country's media industry. Supporters argued that putting too much power in the hands of a few private companies is harmful in a democracy. But Clarin executives argued Tuesday that in reality, the law was designed with one goal in mind: destroying the president's leading critic.

"This government can't handle the existence of independent entities that can have an influence in society," Clarin editor Ricardo Kirschbaum said. "It seems to me that the government simply wants to have political control over the media. ... and I think that what they're trying to achieve is the beginning of a process that enables them to hold onto power indefinitely." □

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Kidnapped boy found in Puerto Rico



Cars sit parked at the spot where a boy was kidnapped in the neighborhood of Barrio Obrero in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012. A group of masked men kidnapped a 6-year-old boy Tuesday in this working class neighborhood of the capital, according to the FBI. Puerto Rico police said in a statement that the boy was with his father, who was injured in the attack. (AP Photo/Ricardo Arduengo)

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Police said that a 6-year-old boy kidnapped Tuesday by masked men in a working-class neighborhood of the Puerto Rican capital appeared hours later apparently unharmed. The boy, identified as Alfry Infante Perez, was dropped off in front of the island's Ombudsman's Office in San Juan, where he was taken in by a security guard who called police, said police spokesman Roberto Diaz. "The boy looked to be in

good health," he said in a phone interview. "He only complained about being hungry."

Doctors will examine the boy, while police are still investigating what motivated the kidnapping, Diaz said. No one has been arrested. The four assailants had fled with the child in a grey Jeep Cherokee, according to the FBI, which took over the investigation because it has jurisdiction over kidnapping cases in Puerto Rico, said Special Agent Maritza

Conde Vazquez, a spokeswoman for the agency in the U.S. island territory.

Conde declined to comment on a possible motive. Puerto Rico police said in a statement that the boy was with his father, who was injured in the attack. It occurred in Barrio Obrero, a neighborhood of San Juan. Local newspaper El Vocero reported that the father had been kidnapped last year and was rescued by the FBI. Conde declined to comment on the report. □

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Yacht commissioned by Steve Jobs launched



A yacht is docked at the wharf of ship building company Royal De Vries in Aalsmeer, near Amsterdam, Netherlands, Tuesday Oct. 30, 2012. Just over a year after the Apple founder died, the luxury motor yacht he commissioned and helped French product designer Philippe Starck make has finally slipped into an anonymous Dutch backwater.

(AP Photo/Peter Dejong)

MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The sleek, white superyacht glistens under a gray autumnal sky, a posthumous testament to the design aesthetic of Steve Jobs.

Just over a year after the Apple founder died, the luxury motor yacht he commissioned and helped French product designer Philippe Starck make has finally slipped into an anonymous Dutch backwater.

Looking like a floating Apple store, it bears all the hallmarks of a new Jobs-inspired creation — crisp white lines, polished metal, glass. And secrecy.

Late Tuesday, shipbuilder Feadship announced it had launched the “78.2-meter (256-foot) all-aluminum, full custom motoryacht Venus” at its yard in Aalsmeer, just south of Amsterdam, two

days earlier.

Starck said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press that he is “proud of Venus as he feels it reflects Steve Jobs’ expectation and vision.”

The superyacht has a long white hull with a row of circular portholes just above the water line and two glass-walled cabins on the top deck, one on top of the other.

Starck said Jobs asked him to design a boat in 2007 and approved his design at only their second meeting to discuss the project.

“The project never changed during the process of five years dedicated to a rigorous work on details, driven by the famous eye and genius of Steve Jobs,” the statement issued by Starck’s design house said. “This work was directly done between Steve Jobs and Philippe Starck.”

Walter Isaacson described plans and models of the yacht in his biography of Jobs, who died, aged 56, on Oct. 5 last year.

“As expected, the planned yacht was sleek and minimalist. The teak decks were perfectly flat and unblemished by any accoutrements. Like an Apple store, the cabin windows were large panes, almost floor to ceiling, and the main living area was designed to have walls of glass that were 40 feet long and 10 feet high,” Jobs’ biographer wrote. “He had gotten the chief engineer of the Apple stores to design a special glass that was able to provide structural support.” Isaacson wrote that Jobs, who long battled pancreatic cancer, was conscious of the fact that he may never see the finished yacht, but wanted it completed anyway. □

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A "Not so Scary" Halloween comes early to Paseo Herencia



Halloween is alive and well in Aruba, as proven by hundreds of youngsters and the young-at-heart who came dressed to the hilt for an early observance of the holiday at Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall. All the stores participated with trick-or-treat sweets, and the mall had environmentally aware goody bags as a gift for the first 400 children to sign in. Not

a single bag was left, and the kids cleaned up from all the vendors available. Entertainment was provided by the Kids in Action dance troupe and Ritmo Cubano. This year, prizes were offered to further the environmental concerned theme. Kids and parents were encouraged to make recycled costumes and Dina, who was picture perfect

as a walking gift box, took first prize. Divina wore an adorable dress designed to showcase the colors of Aruba's flag, made from magazine pages: this won her second place. The center was filled with ghouls, goblins, ghosts and witches of all age and description for a perfectly horrifying pre-Halloween bash! □



Renaissance Aruba Resort hosts Brazilian press members



ORANJESTAD – October-Renaissance Aruba Resort hosted the Brazilian press members to a fabulous stay. Attending this media event 'get-a-way' were 4 writers from Brazil representing their respective magazines and/or newspapers. Debora Costa from the OUL Viagem, Alessander Ferraz from the A Tribuna, Marcelo Toledo from the Correio

Popular, Ricardo Pereira & Frederico Rodrigues from the Lua de Mel and Rejane Souza from the CDI: ATA representative of PR office in Brazil Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino hosted the press members during their stay. Since weddings are an important market for our destination, the press members interviewed the Renais-

sance Aruba Resort wedding coordinator Adriany Fernandes who explained all the beautiful possibilities for a unforgettable wedding at the Renaissance. A small 'wedding setting' was set especially for this group at the Renaissance Private Island. The possibilities are enormous; bride and groom can choose from an indoor setting to

an outdoor setting at the Festival Plaza or at the gorgeous Renaissance Private Island with some flamingos as a back drop with the white sands and calm water. Press members took pictures which will be used in Lua de Mel's next edition. The journalists experienced the Okeanos Spa in a relaxing atmosphere; indoor and outdoor possibilities were explored at the Okeanos Spa. A massage at the Spa cove at the Renaissance Island was certainly an un-

forgettable experience as well. Press Members received a private dining experience at LG Smith's Steak and Chophouse private room, this perfect setting and the saxophonist soothing sounds was truly a great experience. Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino was very happy to showcase all the multiple possibilities as a vacation in paradise and a perfect wedding and honeymoon destination. □

Beauty

on the

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Katie Howard

From Cleveland Ohio, and is her first time in Aruba. She loves the Beach and the local people. She is staying at the Radisson Beach Resort.

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Marjolijn and Marck are the two latest fresh faces at MooMba Beach, the feet-in-the-sand, super relaxed restaurant, which will surprise you with its fabulous, really affordable breakfast buffet, lovely lunch options and wonderful dinner. MooMba Beach is right on the beach, and its coastline view is incomparable: you can see past the marina unto the lighthouse and on the other side almost unto Eagle Beach! But back to Marjolijn (26) and Marck (22) from Holland, both rearing at the bit to start their careers at the open-air, palapa-roofed restaurant straight out of their tropical dreams. The two have traveled quite a bit before touching down here: Marjolijn did an internship as a front desk manager in Jersey (a British Channel island) and as an event coordinator in Mallorca, Spain, even dancing in a hotel show for tourists on the music of Grease and Saturday Night Fever in the process! Marck lived in Spain for a bit with his parents before getting his inter-

national feet wet in Chicago (Kendall College) and then in Punto Cana in the Dominican Republic. Marjolijn, a blonde beauty with gorgeous, big dark blue eyes, had been to Aruba before: once with her family on a three-year stay and once on her own when she was 18 years old. And guess what: she had a blast working at MooMba Beach at the time! "At MooMba we had the family members that we had selected ourselves," she recalls. Ladies first: we will start telling the story of Marjolijn like, whose new position at the Aruba Wine and Dine group is MooMba hostess and pr person. Born in Harderwijk, it took her a while to find out what she was best at, in her personal life as well as career-wise: poor Hylco had to wait six long years for Marjolijn before she became his love-for-life. The two had dated in high school, and Marjolijn ditched him twice, but love will find its way and now the couple has been going strong for more than three years. Meanwhile, through

all the turmoil, she finished best of her class in International Tourism and Leisure Management. Marck Stam found out that he is a good dancer as well as a good manager when he was in the Dominican Republic: his meringue moves are terrific, and pay special attention to his fashionably pointy shoes!

His career path went from a chef's training and sub-department head in the kitchen to hotel management and administration. His biggest challenge at MooMba Beach will be to receive a four-and-a-half TripAdvisor Award, which means getting every little detail service-wise and in the kitchen on a higher

level. MooMba Beach was already very proud to receive 4 points this year – 5 points is the maximum! So now you know why, with a smiling Marjolijn as hostess and manager Marck added to MooMba's happy family, the place is ready for a sizzling high season. Bon bini, Marjolijn and Marck! □

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Eagle Beach – This Wednesday, October 31st, Trop Casino will be serving up plenty of treats without the tricks, in celebration of Halloween. A \$10 Spooktacular Slot Tournament is slated to kick off at 8pm, with winners walking away with up to \$1,000 in cash prizes. The Hot Seat will also offer \$1,000 in prizes, while those who accumulate 50 points in the same day on their Trop Advantage Card will be allowed to select a candy bar from the sweet treat bag and win even more prizes. Make sure you come dressed in your best Halloween outfit, as the Best Costume Contest will be awarding attractive cash prizes.

Trop Casino, located at J.E. Irausquin Boulevard



248, next to the Tropicana Aruba Resort & Casino, is inviting visitors to enjoy special perks and benefits by signing up for the free Trop Advantage Card. You can sign up today and immediately begin to accumulate points for special benefits. For every 250 points earned,

you'll receive one free entry to the exciting weekly Balloon Drop on Monday nights, in which balloons loaded with awesome prizes will drop to the floor, to be caught by lucky casino guests. Just use your card between Monday to Sunday and you will be eligible

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a

perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the Westin Resort, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort



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Rory's Switch



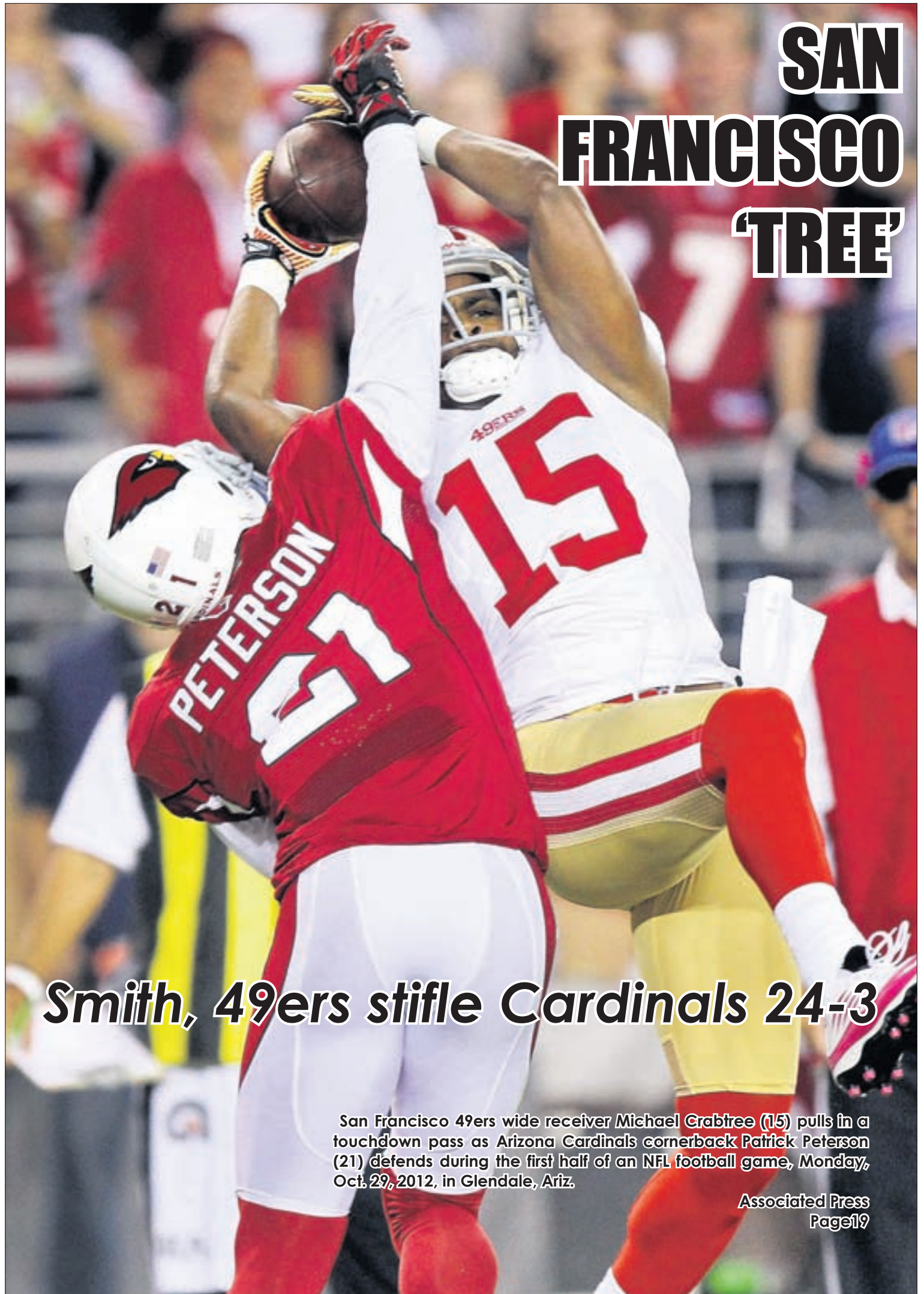
Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland throws his putter on the 7th green during the third round of the Masters golf tournament in Shanghai, China on

Rory McIlroy facing his biggest change

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Rory McIlroy's decision to pursue a lucrative equipment deal was in place long before he grabbed a Nike golf club from Tiger Woods during their exhibition match in China and took a few practice swings. Changing equipment was inevitable. Boy Wonder is simply too big now. The 23-year-old from Northern Ireland is no longer a U.S. Open champion with a massive upside. He fulfilled a big chunk of that potential this year with four wins, including an eight-shot win at the PGA Championship and back-to-back wins in the FedEx Cup playoffs against two of the strongest fields of the year. He is a lock for PGA Tour player of the year and the Vardon Trophy, all the awards Woods used to win. McIlroy is a marketing dream, which made him worth too much to stay with Titleist.

Continued on Page 21



SAN FRANCISCO 'TREE'

Smith, 49ers stifle Cardinals 24-3

San Francisco 49ers wide receiver Michael Crabtree (15) pulls in a touchdown pass as Arizona Cardinals cornerback Patrick Peterson (21) defends during the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 29, 2012, in Glendale, Ariz.

Associated Press
Page 19



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Tigers bring back manager Jim Leyland for 2013



Detroit Tigers manager Jim Leyland gestures before Game 3 of baseball's World Series against the San Francisco Giants Saturday, Oct. 27, 2012, in Detroit. Associated Press

NOAH TRISTER
 AP Sports Writer

DETROIT (AP) -- Jim Leyland insisted throughout the latter part of the season that there would be a time and a place to discuss his managing future. That moment came Tuesday - when the Detroit Tigers announced Leyland would be back in 2013 with a one-year contract extension.

"I really don't know why this is such a shock to everybody, because we told everybody that we weren't going to talk about this until after the season," Leyland said. "It's not even 48 hours and it's done. I think it was pretty much exactly like we had planned it."

The Tigers and their manager quickly ended any remaining speculation about his status, just two days after Detroit was swept by the San Francisco Giants in the World Series. Leyland was managing on a one-year deal this year as well - and he seems comfortable taking his future year by year at this point in his career.

"I'm going to be here in 2013, and we'll take that from there," Leyland said. "I wanted to manage, but I did think long and hard about it, because I wanted to make sure that I was going to be doing everything that you need to do to continue to keep this club headed in the right direction." The 67-year-old Leyland leads all active managers with 1,676 wins, a total that puts him 15th on the career list. Next season will be his 22nd as a major league manager and his eighth in Detroit. He's led the Tigers to the postseason three times and the World Series twice. □



German-based Afghan boxer Hamid Rahimi, right, hits Said Mbelwa of Tanzania during their WBO (World Boxing Organization) Intercontinental middleweight championship fight in Kabul, Afghanistan, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012.

Associated Press

Afghan boxer wins first pro fight in war-torn nation

SLOBODAN LEKIC
 Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghan boxer Hamid Rahimi won the first professional bout in his war-torn country Tuesday by stopping Said Mbelwa of Tanzania in the seventh round.

Rahimi, who is based in Germany, said his aim in organizing "Afghanistan Fight 4 Peace" was to bring the people of his country together after decades of warfare.

Several hundred spectators watched the bout live in a large hall in the capital, cheering wildly when Rahimi won the vacant WBO intercontinental middleweight title. Mbelwa was unable to continue because of a shoulder injury.

Mbelwa had showboated in the early rounds, but retreated to his corner holding his shoulder in the seventh after Rahimi delivered four fierce rights in quick succession.

Rahimi's supporters carried a banner reading "We Want Peace" during the match. Spectators crowded into the ring after the match to congratulate both fighters.

"I am very happy because this victory belongs to all Afghans," Rahimi said.

The boxer has lived in Germany since childhood when his parents moved there in 1992. He has won 22 of his 23 pro fights.

Organizers said the two men made history by staging the first professional match in Afghanistan.

But amateur boxing is popular in Afghanistan and the nation's first Olympic boxer, flyweight Ajmal Faisal, took part in the London Games this year.

The fight was the latest of several sporting events which authorities hope will help unite the nation.

Earlier this month, Afghanistan's new football league held its first national championship at Kabul's renovated Ghazi stadium. □

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NFL Roundup

Smith almost perfect, 49ers flatten Arizona 24-3

BOB BAUM

AP Sports Writer

GLENDAL, Arizona (AP)

— The San Francisco 49ers extended their National Football Conference West dominance with a 24-3 thrashing of the Arizona Cardinals on Monday. Alex Smith completed 18 of 19 passes for 232 yards and three touchdowns — two to Michael Crabtree and one to Randy Moss — to help San Francisco (6-2) open a two-game lead in the division and send Arizona (4-4) to its fourth straight loss. Smith's only incomple- tion was dropped by a wide-open receiver. Smith was 14 of 15 for 146 yards and two touch- downs, both to Crab-

tree, as the 49ers built a 17-0 halftime lead. Moss caught a 47-yard TD pass, dodging tacklers down the sideline on a play that seemed to turn back the clock to the receiver's prime. With the catch, he tied Terrell Owens for fourth on the NFL career touchdown list with 156. Smith, who equaled a career high with the three touchdown passes, spread out his comple- tions to 10 receivers. Crab- tree led the way with five catches for 72 yards. Arizona's defense, sup- posed to be the team's strength, missed tackle after tackle in an embar- rassing nationally tele- vised performance at



San Francisco 49ers defensive back Chris Culliver breaks up a pass intended for Arizona Cardinals wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald (11) during the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 29, 2012, in Glendale, Ariz. Associated Press

NHL players expect to get escrow checks Wednesday

TORONTO (AP) — Locked-out NHL players are expected to get back last season's escrow payment on Wednesday. According to a union spokesman, players are set to be given 7.98 percent of what they earned last year, plus interest, on the day they were to have received their second paycheck of the currently delayed season. The escrow payments will amount to about \$80,000 for every million dollars a player earned, before deduc- tions. For example, New York Rangers forward Brad Richards will gross ap- proximately \$960,000 after being the league's highest-paid player last season. Under the terms of the recently expired collective bargaining agreement, play- ers had a portion of their salaries deduct- ed throughout the season and placed into an escrow account. Once the final accounting for the year was complet- ed, which ensured the correct percent- age of revenue was paid out in sala- ries, players were refunded accordingly. The escrow checks will be distributed at an important time, as the lockout is about to eliminate another pay cycle. Play- ers also missed a payment on Oct. 15,

but that would have only covered four days of the regular season. This week's checks would have included the first full half-month pay period of the season. NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr met with a group of players in Minnesota on Monday night and acknowledged in an interview with the Minneapolis Star-Tribune that some of his constituents are concerned about lost wages that are mounting. "That doesn't mean you make a bad agree- ment because of it," Fehr told the newspaper. There have been no labor negotiations since Oct. 18, when the union countered a league offer with three proposals. Those were all quickly rejected by the NHL. Since then, a league-imposed dead- line to play a full season has passed, and the NHL cancelled all games through Nov. 30. The New Year's Day Winter Classic is also in danger of being called off if a new deal isn't reached soon. Superstorm Sandy forced the NHL to close its New York headquarters on Monday and Tuesday, but deputy commissioner Bill Daly indicated that the weather didn't affect the bargaining process. However, no progress has been made this week. □

home. The 24 points were the most allowed by the Cardinals this season. Led by Smith's near-perfect precision passing, the 49ers methodically dominated from the start. The San Francisco quarterback had the best completion percent- age of his career, and he would have been perfect had Delanie Walker not dropped the ball when he was wide open on a cross- ing route in the first half. A 10-play, 77-yard drive that consumed just over 6 min- utes of the first quarter put San Francisco up 7-0. On third-and-goal from the 3, Smith threw a sidelines pass to Crabtree, who outfought Patrick Peterson for the ball and the touchdown. A flurry missed tackles, most notably an open-field whiff by Sam Acho, helped Ted Ginn Jr. return a punt 35 yards to the Arizona 45 in the second quarter. Daryl

Washington sacked Smith to help set up a third- and-23 from the Cardinals 46. But Smith found Crab- tree over the middle for 22 yards, just a yard shy of the first down. David Akers' 43 yard field goal made it 10-0 with 5:58 left in the half. Crabtree beat Peterson again for San Francisco's second touchdown. Smith threw over the middle to the receiver, who caught the ball, then fooled Pe- terson with an inside move into the end zone to make it 17-0 with 1:41 left in the half. The 49ers drove 68 yards in eight plays, again overcoming a sack, this one by Calais Campbell, that made it second- and-goal from the 16. Smith threw 7 yards to Ma- rio Manningham to set up the TD toss to Crabtree. The Cardinals were booed off the field by the home crowd at the half. □

Phelps says he may be back in 2016 _as a golfer



U.S. Olympic swimming champion Michael Phelps, center, poses for the media with young swimmers at the Olympic Village Carlos Castilho in the Complexo de Alemao slum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012. Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Michael Phelps says the only chance he'll be competing again at the 2016 Olympics is if he finds a way to succeed in golf. Phelps joked Tuesday during a visit to Rio de Janeiro that even though his mom, Debbie Phelps, wants him to be swimming for med-

als again in 2016, he'll only make it to the games if "somehow" he becomes "an amazing golfer." That, he added, was "very unlikely" to happen "over the next three years." He said, "I have already told her I will not be competing, so do not get her

hopes up." Golf will be returning to the Olympics in Rio after an absence of more than 100 years. During his promotional trip, Phelps visited a pacified shantytown and gave swimming lessons to local kids at a public training center. □

Armstrong loses key to the city of Adelaide



ADELAIDE, Australia (AP) — The Australian city of Adelaide has stripped Lance Armstrong of its highest honor — the key to the city — following the removal of his seven Tour de France titles. Adelaide had a small but important part in Armstrong's career. The Tour Down Under, based in the city, was the first event he contested when he made a comeback to professional cycling in 2009, and his third appearance in the race in 2011 was also his last on cycling's ProTour. □

The Jan. 14, 2009 file photo shows seven-time Tour de France cycling champion Lance Armstrong of the U.S. during a stop on the third day of training with his team Astana in Adelaide, Australia.

Associated Press



FC Barcelona's Lionel Messi from Argentina poses with his Golden Boot award in recognition for scoring the most goals in Europe's domestic leagues last season, in Barcelona, Spain, Monday, Oct. 29, 2012. The 25-year-old Messi scored a Spanish-league record 50 goals for Barcelona, edging out fellow Spanish league star Cristiano Ronaldo of Real Madrid by four goals.

Associated Press

Messi leads inaugural AP Global Soccer poll

LONDON (AP) — Lionel Messi is the best footballer in the world and his team Barcelona the top-rated club, according to the inaugural AP Global Soccer 10 football rankings released Tuesday by The Associated Press.

A global panel of football writers chose Messi as the clear leader in a top 10 list of players for his performance in the week ending Oct. 29.

The Argentina forward has been scoring almost at will for Barcelona in the Spanish league and Champions League, and he added two more in Saturday's 5-0 victory at Rayo Vallecano. "Shame on Messi," said Filip Bondy, a panelist who writes for the New York Daily News. "He scored only twice. At this rate, he'll only be the best player in the world ... forever."

Messi received 140 points out of a possible 180, 29 points clear of Real Madrid rival Cristiano Ronaldo with 111. Atletico Madrid striker Radamel Falcao was third with 79 points.

The top three all play in Spain. Manchester United striker Robin van Persie was fourth, followed by Paris Saint-Germain striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

The panel of 18 international football writers chose Barcelona as the team of the week, 21 points ahead of Spanish rival Atletico Madrid. Manchester United was in third place after beating Chelsea 3-2 on Sunday in the Premier League.

Each panelist selects 10 teams and players, with 10 points for first place and one for 10th.

The weekly survey includes journalists from Europe, South America, North America and Asia.

All 10 teams are from Europe and the top 10 players all play for European clubs. Three Bundesliga teams were in the top 10 — Schalke, Bayer Leverkusen and Borussia Dortmund — but league leader Bayern Munich failed to make it after losing its first league game of the season against Leverkusen. □

Rory's Switch

Continued from Page 17

Acushnet, the parent company, has a history of promoting its brand through numbers instead of a name. That's why it didn't stand in the way when Woods switched to the Swoosh, why it didn't put up a fight to keep Sergio Garcia a decade ago, and why it let Phil Mickelson out of his contract just four months after Lefty's popularity soared with his first major win at the 2004 Masters. And why it announced Tuesday that its relationship with McIlroy will end this year.

Golfers go through change all the time — agents, caddies, coaches. Switching equipment can be a tricky transition, and there is a long list of players who have struggled with it over the years.

What makes McIlroy's next move so interesting is that no other player who was No. 1 in the world made such a wholesale change so early in his career.

"I call it dangerous," six-time major champion Nick Faldo said Tuesday morning on Golf Channel. "I've changed clubs and changed equipment, and every manufacturer will say, 'We can copy your clubs, we can tweak the golf ball so it fits you.' But there's feel and sound as well, and there's confidence. You can't put a real value on that."

All signs point to McIlroy signing with Nike, with one



Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland hits a shot on the 5th fairway during the first round of the Masters golf tournament in Shanghai, China on Thursday Oct. 25, 2012.

industry observer saying the deal could be worth upward of \$20 million a year.

Adding to the speculation is whether Woods helped to recruit the kid. They have been extraordinarily chummy since August, and Woods raves about McIlroy. That's not unusual. McIlroy is well-mannered, respectful and doesn't take himself too seriously.

He's fun to be around. Woods and David Duval also became close toward the end of 2000, when they played together in the World Cup in Argentina and then flew together on Woods' private jet to start the year at Kapalua. It wasn't long before Duval, in a legal dispute with Titleist, signed on with Nike.

A Nike official said it would not comment on "rumors and speculation," not even

when it would announce its roster for the 2013 season. Nike has money to spend, and McIlroy won't be the only player added to the Swoosh stable next year. Two people with knowledge of his plans say Nick Watney is headed from Titleist to Nike.

It might look as if McIlroy is headed down the same path as Woods, but the difference is in how they change equipment.

Woods spent five years switching out his equipment from Titleist to Nike, with an additional five years to leave his old Scotty Cameron putter.

McIlroy would have only two months.

When he turned pro in 1996, Woods had a five-year deal with Nike that was mainly about brand and apparel. He also had a five-year deal with Titleist

Associated Press

for equipment. The long-term deal with Nike (renewals of five years and seven years, with the stakes going up each time), allowed Woods to change equipment at his own pace.

He went to the Nike golf ball at a European Tour event in Germany in 2000, and then went on to win the next four majors. He didn't go to the Nike driver until February 2002 at Pebble Beach, and then he won the first two majors that year (though he briefly went back to the Titleist driver in the summer).

Woods went to the Nike irons at a World Golf Championship in Ireland in 2002, one week before the Ryder Cup, which led to a memorable exchange.

Asked why he would switch irons a week before such a big event like the Ryder Cup, Woods said to a reporter, "Off the record? Because the majors are over." When asked for a comment on the record, Woods paused and said, "Because the majors are over."

He won that WGC event and contributed 2½ points in a losing cause at The Ryder Cup.

Woods went another year before adding Nike's 56-degree wedge, and three weeks later he went to the lob wedge.

The 3-wood was added at Doral in 2005 and the 5-wood came into play at the Tour Championship seven months later. The last change was the putter, first used at St. Andrews in 2010. Before leaving Malaysia, Woods reflected on his process of change, noting the ball was the "huge switch" because he went from a wound ball to solid construction, which is the model everyone now uses. □

Early Bird Menu

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By: Dr. Carlos Viana

Imagine receiving a letter addressed to you that had a return address with your grandmother's name on it. The letter is remarkable because your grandmother passed on before you were born. Would you be motivated to open and read the letter? There are people who would find this situation too weird and would be afraid to open the letter. Other people, intrigued would want to know what one of their ancestors had to say to them to them and immediately rip it open. Still others would open the envelope very slowly, being caught between fear, excitement and wanting the experience to last. Dreams are like this. Dreams are a clear indication that the sleeping brain is working on information about your body, mind and spirit, including ways that will directly improve your life quality; if you listen.

In our clinic, I often discuss dreams with patients during their healing process. People come to clinic because they have symptoms that could include, pain, dizziness, numbness, lightheadedness, fatigue, ringing ears, depression, problems sleeping and difficulties relating to sex. A symptom is a "feeling" that only the person in that body can describe. Symptoms could come with signs that can be seen or mea-

Transformation through Dreams

sured, such as fluctuations in breathing or heart rate, instability in walking, pale skin, facial expression changes. Symptoms or Signs could both indicate the presence of disease or abnormality. Symptoms, like dreams are letters or messages from our subconscious and unconscious mind, telling us something is different. If the message is something our conscious mind doesn't want to hear or "deal with", we try to ignore, cover up or "kill" it. Sigmund Freud, one of the developers of psychotherapy considered shooting the messenger a classic case of denial of what is distressing or unbearable. In 1482, the fortress town, Alhama was taken from the Moorish Sultanate Boabdil by the Catholic Monarchs. When King Boabdil received the news of the fall of his city, he felt that the loss meant the end of his rule. But he could not "let it be true"...."He threw the letters in the fire and killed the messenger". Did that change the facts?

Similarly many people do not want to listen to their dreams. Frightened by a dream with a death theme, they take painkillers, sleeping pills or alcohol to forget convinced the death dream is prophesizing bad things to come. In fact a death in the dream of a young adult is a message that the youth is "dying" to allow the adult to be "born" in the same body. Symbolically, you as a baby had to die so the child could be born, then the child had to die so the teenager could evolve, then the stu-

dent must die and a working adult, who can start taking care of themselves emerges. Overwhelmingly, cultural myths honor the butterfly as a symbol of transformation because of its impressive process of metamorphosis. Interestingly, in many cultures the butterfly is also associated with the soul. As we mature and take more responsibility for our own lives, our soul evolves.

Dreams and symptoms, as messages are not good or bad. During times of crisis and trauma, as well as transition, beginning or ending a relationship, facing illness, changing jobs, leaving home, dealing with loss, all stressful occurrences, dreams can be a valuable resource for problem solving. Actively working at learning how to better understand your dreams and symptoms will enhance your ability to interpret your inner feelings and resolve major challenges, turning the difficult passages of life into opportunities for growth and success.

In our clinic, instead of covering up symptoms, our patients embark on a journey with me to identify the source of their problems. I show them through standard and cutting edge science where their physical risks are. I then offer choices for eliminating toxins. This is the first step of my 3 step protocol to good health. We then, teach you to nourish your body in the healthiest way available. Step 3 includes balancing all aspects of your life, not only your body, but also your mind

and spirit. Our bodies are complex and each aspect is not separate, but part of the "Whole".

Some say, that I am a master at reading not only signs, but also "hidden symptoms." There is no secret to this. I have spent many years studying body chemistry including evaluating medical tests and physical signs. My logical or left brain and training gives me tools to quickly analyze this information. However, my creative or "right" brain allows me to reach deeper not only listening to my own messages, but "tuning-in" to symptoms or feelings of those around me. I then use this information to find answers to cases or problems in my work or life. Dream work is a way of tapping into these unconscious or hidden secrets.

There are different paths to understanding our dreams, which come from our unconscious, physical science; where it is possible to measure brain activity, psychology; the most famous still used today are Freud and Jung, or superstition; "Dreams are dangerous" or Dream books. Dispelling the myths and learning to developing the communication skills with our "unconscious" or hidden brain and our conscious or waking brain, should not be feared. It allows us to understand our whole selves better, therefor grow and heal.

Get The Point! A letter from grandparent could contain valuable genetic information about your family's health. Information you and your doctor can use to

help prevent potential illnesses. Similarly, your symptoms are vitally important to identify any potential problems that could be developing. The process you go through to heal your body and mind enriches and evolves your soul. Dreams show us what our soul wants. Call us for Dream counseling or to help with unwanted symptom relief. We can help your butterfly transform to its greatest potential. DREAMS: THE HIDDEN SECRETS TO ABUNDANCE - a 4 week workshop starting Wed., 07 Nov, call for reservations.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.viana-heal.com

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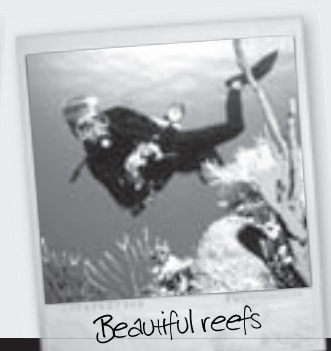
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George Washington key in new video game

MATTHEW BARAKAT

Associated Press

McLEAN, Virginia (AP) —

George Washington, Ben Franklin and other heroes of the American Revolution take center stage in one of the biggest video game releases of the year.

The latest edition of the popular Assassin's Creed franchise is set in the Revolutionary War. While wars are common settings for video games, it is rare for a game to be set in the 18th century.

In some ways, Assassin's Creed III is meticulous with historical accuracy. Great attention was paid to research to recreate the cities of New York and Boston on a one-third scale. History professors were brought in as consultants.

In other ways, the game takes liberties. It integrates the Revolutionary War into

the overarching story of Assassin's Creed, in which the secret society of the Knights Templar fills the role as the game's overarching villain. Game creators were reluctant to reveal too many details before the game's release Tuesday. Review copies were not available in advance.

The game's creative director, Alex Hutchinson, said the ability to explore a historical era that has been largely left untouched by the gaming world was one of the most exciting aspects of the project.

As for Washington himself, Hutchinson said he wanted the game to portray the fact that for the man who would become the nation's first president, it was far from certain that America would win the war.

Francois Furstenberg, a history professor at the University of Montreal, who has



This undated handout image provided by Ubisoft shows a scene from the Ubisoft game: "the Tyranny of King Washington" Associated Press

even-handed approach to the revolution, said Hutchinson, who is frequently questioned by skeptical fans who worry the game will be too pro-American.

Not to worry, said Hutchinson, who jokes that he's an Australian living in Canada making a game about the American Revolution for a French software company. Even where it sought to be realistic, the game's creators took a few liberties. Washington, for instance, is first introduced as a young officer serving under General Braddock in the French and Indian war. The game makers took great care to show the youthful Washington accurately, as a red-head.

Looking at the finished product, though, they felt they ought to add a touch of gray to Washington's hair, to more closely match the iconic image of Washington held by the public.

"We did not know how odd it is to see a red-headed George Washington," Hutchinson said.

"It was one of those instances where the fiction felt more right than the real version."

At George Washington's Mount Vernon estate, curators are happy that the game will introduce so many kids to Washington and the Founding Fathers and hopefully get them thinking about history.

"I would love for people to focus on exactly the incredible choice Washington made to relinquish power," said Carol Cadou, senior curator at Mount Vernon, even if the vehicle for prompting that discussion is a game that contorts and creates an alternate reality. □

Pandora refreshes iPhone, Android apps

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Internet radio company Pandora is adding more functionality to its mobile apps — showing lyrics and artist information and making it easier to share self-crafted stations with friends — as companies intensify efforts to lure mobile advertising dollars.

Pandora is essentially bringing the features of its website to users of its apps for Apple and Android mobile devices. The app for iPhones is being released Monday, while an Android version is expected to follow soon. Pandora also said it is releasing a version for Microsoft's Windows Phone 8 early next year.

Mobile use of Pandora's streaming service is growing quickly. In the quarter that ended in July, mobile listening nearly doubled from a year earlier and made up more than 75 percent of its 3.3 billion listener hours.

Pandora is the leader in free online radio, where listeners can pick genres or styles of music but not specific songs or albums. It has 175 million registered users, including 58 million who use it in a given month. It

claims a 73 percent share of the market for free online radio.

Pandora competes for listeners with services such as Clear Channel's iHeart Radio and has apps on phones, tablets, computers and car stereo systems. Apple is the leading online seller of song and album downloads, while a whole host of paid subscription music services such as Spotify, Rhapsody, Rdio and MOG offer unlimited track selection and playback for a monthly fee of \$10.

As a free service, Pandora relies mostly on advertising revenue to make its business work. Investors of Internet companies that offer free services online have been concerned about their ability to make money from mobile advertising as usage of mobile devices has skyrocketed.

Pandora's mobile ad revenue has been growing almost as quickly as mobile listening, and its revenue from mobile ads was up 86 percent at \$59 million in the last quarter, making up over half of the company's total revenues. □

written about the iconography that surrounds Washington, served as a consultant and said he was interested less in making sure names and dates were perfect, but more in the game's overarching narrative. He said the game's creators shared his desire to depict the war in a nuanced way that avoided portraying one side as the good guys.

"Anything that complicates the narrative is a good thing," he said.

The game's protagonist — Connor, half American Indian, Half British and not aligned with either side — served as a good vehicle for exploring the era in a way that avoids patriotic clichés, Hutchinson said.

The game's international fan base also demands an

Back to Business:

New York Stock Exchange will reopen Wednesday

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Stock Exchange will reopen for regular trading Wednesday after being shut down for two days because of Hurricane Sandy. The exchange said in a statement Tuesday that its building and trading floor are fully operational and that normal trading will resume at the usual starting time of 9:30 a.m.

There had been erroneous reports Monday that the exchange floor had flooded. Exchange spokesman Ray Pellecchia said the exchange's building did not have any flooding or damage.

Tuesday marks the first time since 1888 that the NYSE remained closed for two consecutive days because of weather.

The earlier shutdown was caused by a massive snow storm.

Sections of Manhattan were inundated with water Tuesday and power was shut off to millions of people and businesses up and down the East Coast.

Dozens of companies have postponed earnings reports this week because of the storm, but Ford Motor Co. did release results for the third quarter that topped



The streets surrounding the New York Stock Exchange, left, are deserted as financial markets remain closed for the second day, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012. Sandy, the storm that made landfall Monday, caused multiple fatalities, halted mass transit and cut power

Wall Street expectations. Ford's revenue fell 3 percent to \$32.1 billion be-

cause of the economic crisis in Europe and falling sales in South America. The compa-

ny exceeded Wall Street's revenue forecast of \$31.5 billion largely because of North America, where revenue jumped 8 percent.

European stock markets rose broadly Tuesday after falling the day before. Trading was subdued in the wake of the storm. Britain's FTSE 100 index rose 0.9 percent, Germany's DAX rose 1.1 percent and the CAC-40 in France was 1.5 percent higher.

Crude oil rose 14 cents to settle at \$85.68 in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

U.S. bond trading was closed Tuesday.

Electronic trading for U.S. stock index futures was open, but trading volume was very light and the price moves were minuscule.

As of the regular close of trading at 9:15 a.m., Dow Jones industrial average futures rose 8 points to 13,062. S&P 500 futures added 3.50 points to 1,411.10. Nasdaq futures slipped 3.75 points to 2,655.25.

On Monday, when regular U.S. stock trading was also closed, stock index futures fell slightly. □

Fiat plans to debut 17 new cars by 2016

COLLEEN BARRY

AP Business Writer

ROME (AP) — While European competitors close factories and get government bailouts, Italian carmaker Fiat is banking on its underexposed luxury brands to put idled Italian car plants to work and stem losses in its European operations.

Fiat CEO Sergio Marchionne announced an ambitious four-year plan Tuesday to ramp up production of Alfa Romeo and Maserati brands in Italy, where Fiat will launch 17 new models to be built in Fiat's five Italian plants from 2013-2016. Fiat, which owns U.S. carmaker Chrysler, also will unveil a new smaller Jeep for production in Italy aimed primarily at Europe, and focus the Fiat brand on the 500 and Panda compact car ranges.

"This is truly not for the faint-hearted," Marchionne said. "We have not shied away from a fight."

Marchionne said he believes the investments, part of new capital expenditures of €16 billion (\$21 billion) to €18 billion (\$23 billion) in 2013-2014 across the Fiat-Chrysler alliance, could "provide a permanent solution" for the quandary facing his underutilized European plants, which are running below 50 percent capacity.

Under the plan, Fiat Europe, which lost €238 million in the third quarter alone, would break even by 2015-2016.

Fiat's move is the latest response by European automakers to the fifth consecutive year of declining car demand.

There is general consensus that European factories are tooled to produce 20 percent more cars than the market can bear -- cutting into the carmakers' bottom line and leaving jobs vacant at a time when European policymakers are trying to boost growth and employment. □

Gas pump prices fall in storm's wake

NEW YORK (AP) — The price of gasoline fell Tuesday after Hurricane Sandy left a wide swath of flooding, power outages and disrupted transportation in the eastern U.S.

The national average for a gallon of regular fell by about a penny, to \$3.53. That's more than 11 cents lower than a week ago. Gasoline futures fell 3 cents to end at \$2.73 a gallon.

With many roads impassable, drivers won't be driving as much, reducing demand for gasoline.

"It will take some time before we can get demand anywhere close to normal," independent energy analyst Phil Flynn wrote in his daily energy report. "Many

people are staying home if possible."

Gasoline prices have been dropping since early October. That should continue into November due to the storm, said Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at Oil Price Information Services. Less driving in the coming days coupled with November's traditionally lower demand should bring prices down later in the month.

Only two of the Northeast's nine refineries were knocked out of commission by Sandy, and they apparently are down because of power outages. But Kloza said it could take a while for supply to reach consumers in the region because of transportation problems. □



A tanker truck passes in the background as two gas stations on the same street show different prices Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012, in Houston. Eight oil refineries that make up about 8 percent of U.S. refining capacity sit in the area hit by Hurricane Sandy. Nearly all of them were affected by the superstorm. Most shut down or ran at reduced rates and are cranking up to normal operations. But two have no power and it's unclear when they will be back online.

(AP Photo/Pat Sullivan)

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Despite Europe woes, Ford reports \$1.63b 3Q profit

DEE-ANN DURBIN

AP Auto Writer

DEARBORN, Michigan (AP)

— Europe may have lost its appetite for new cars, but buyers in America and China propelled Ford to a better-than-expected profit in the third quarter.

Ford Motor Co. earned \$1.63 billion, down only slightly from a year earlier, despite lower worldwide sales and bigger European losses. It was the company's best performance ever in the third quarter.

Ford said Tuesday its per-share net income was unchanged at 41 cents. Excluding one-time items, like severance payouts, Ford earned 40 cents per share, beating Wall Street's forecast of 30 cents, according to FactSet.

Ford reported a \$2.3 billion pretax profit in North America, its best performance since the company began reporting separate

North American results 12 years ago. The region has been profitable for three years now, after a grueling restructuring that saw thousands of job cuts, plant closures and the accelerated

down results this year and next.

"We know what it takes to have a healthy business," Chief Financial Officer Bob Shanks said.

Ford's revenue fell 3 per-

cent to \$19.5 billion, helped by higher pricing and increased sales of more profitable trucks and SUVs like the Ford Explorer. It was the third quarter in a row that the company has made more than \$2 billion in North America and has reported an operating margin of 10 percent or more. Ford's North American operating margin was 12 percent in the third quarter.

"To me the story isn't just the results but the consistency of the results," Shanks said.

It's also impressive because the third quarter is typically a slower period. Summer

production shutdowns cut into profits, while fall launches of new cars can hurt sales of older cars still in showrooms.

Shanks said the 12-percent rate likely won't be repeated in the fourth quarter, when automakers typically spend more heavily on holiday ads. Ford also saw a gain from commodity hedging that might not be repeated.

Ford's U.S. market share actually fell from a year earlier. Japanese automakers regained their footing after the 2011 earthquake and Ford stopped selling the Ranger pickup and Crown Victoria sedan which had strong sales last fall. □



A Ford Focus is on display at a car dealership in San Jose, Calif. Ford's third-quarter net income eases 1 percent to \$1.63 billion as European losses swamp record North American profits, the company announced Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

development of new products like the Focus sedan. That restructuring is now Ford's blueprint for Europe, which is expected to drag

cent to \$32.1 billion as vehicle sales dropped worldwide, but the company still exceeded Wall Street's revenue forecast. That

UBS slashes business in overhaul

JOHN HEILPRIN

Associated Press

GENEVA (AP)

— Scarred by scandals and losses, Swiss bank UBS unveiled Tuesday a plan to overhaul its global operations that will see it cut thousands of jobs as it drops risky trading activities and restructures its investment banking unit.

Switzerland's biggest bank has for years been trying to reshape its business and clean up its image as it tries to recover from a damaging U.S. tax evasion dispute, a scandal over unauthorized trades and a slew of bad investments.

Tuesday's plan represented a sudden acceleration in this turnaround effort.

UBS AG will cut 10,000 jobs, on top of 3,500 shed last year, as it drops out of trading in fixed income — which includes bonds and currencies — and rejiggers its investment banking.

It will cut 3,000 of those jobs at its U.S. operations along Interstate 95 in Stamford, Conn., near New York City. Another 4,500

will be axed in London, with the remaining 2,500 in Switzerland.

"This decision has been hard, but necessary to create a UBS that is fit for the future," said Chief Executive Sergio Ermotti.

The need to restructure the investment banking unit was apparent in the bank's third quarter earnings, released Tuesday. UBS made a 2.17 billion Swiss francs (\$2.31 billion) loss in the July to September period, down from a profit of 1.02 billion francs the year before, mainly due to a loss of 3.1 billion francs in investment banking.

"It can't get better than this point for us to act," Ermotti said.

With 63,745 employees in 57 countries, UBS said it aims for a headcount of 54,000 in 2015.

Investors welcomed the restructuring announcement, focusing on the savings it will create. UBS stock rose 5.9 percent to 13.89 francs on Tuesday — on top of a 7.3 percent rise on Monday on speculation over the cuts. □



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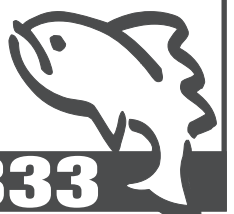


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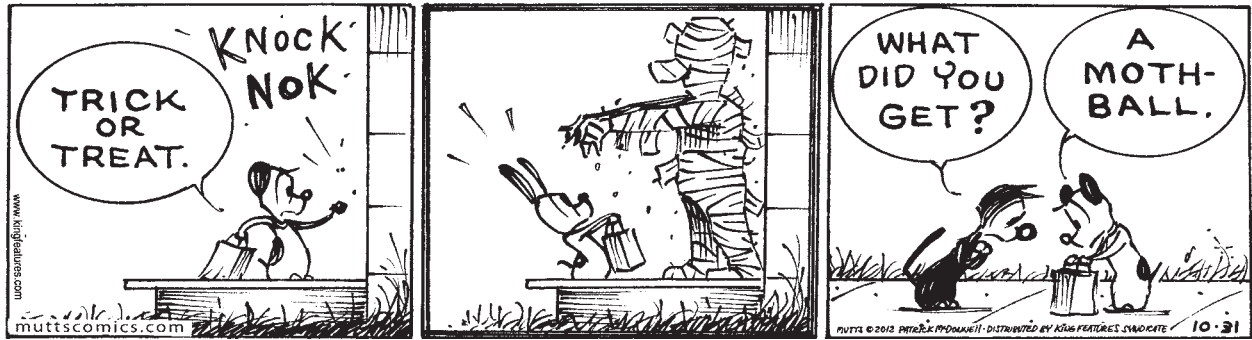
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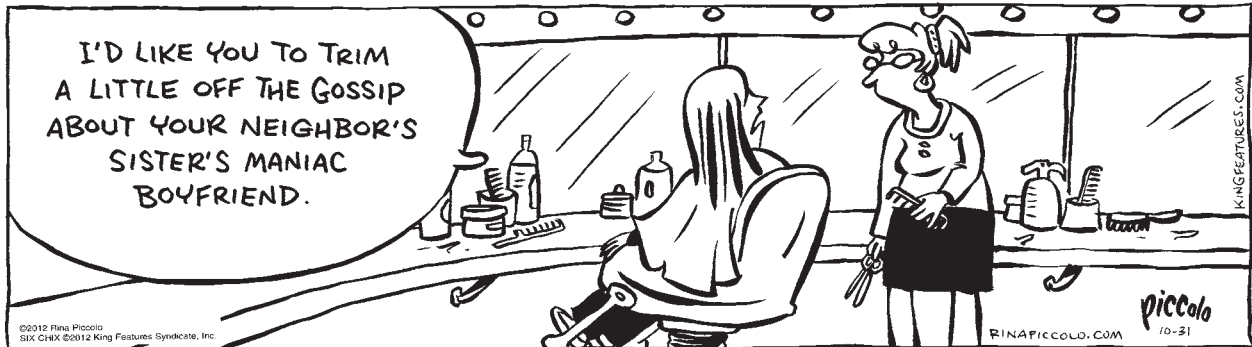
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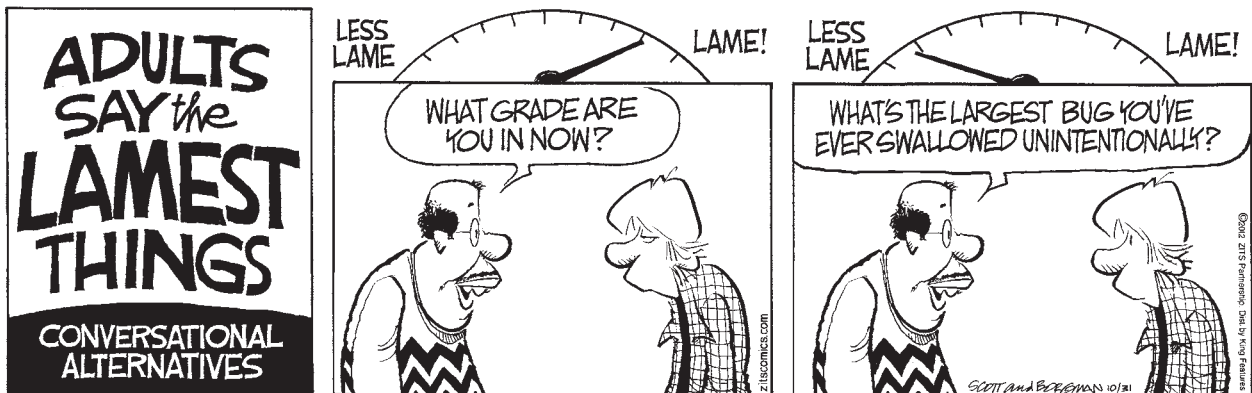
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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	2	9			1	3	7	6
1			6		4			8
5			2					9
2			3					5
	3	5	9				1	
			8				6	
			7			6		
			4			5		
	9	4				8		

Difficulty Level ★★★

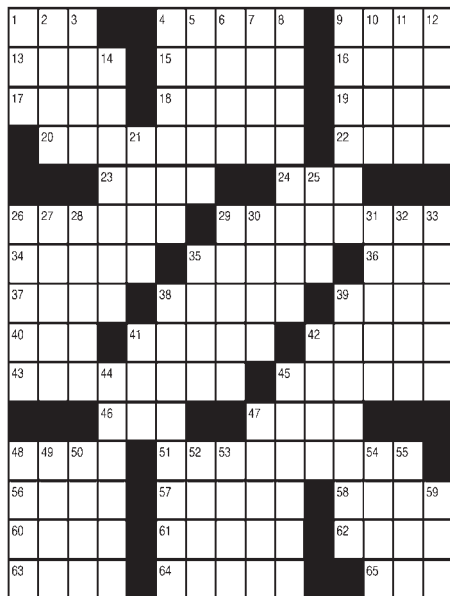
10/31

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

9	4	5	1	6	3	2	8	7
6	7	8	9	2	4	1	5	3
2	3	1	8	5	7	6	9	4
1	8	7	2	4	5	9	3	6
5	9	4	3	8	6	7	1	2
3	2	6	7	1	9	8	4	5
8	5	9	4	7	2	3	6	1
4	1	2	6	3	8	5	7	9
7	6	3	5	9	1	4	2	8

ACROSS

- 1 "One, __, buckle my shoe..."
- 4 Gladden
- 9 4-qt. measures
- 13 Assistant
- 15 Postpone
- 16 Adams or Falco
- 17 Scheme; tactic
- 18 Ridiculous
- 19 One of the Three Bears
- 20 Ranch, blue cheese, etc.
- 22 Mischief makers
- 23 Before long
- 24 Actor __ Somerhalder
- 26 Tavern
- 29 Sheer nightie
- 34 Open-eyed
- 35 Remini and others
- 36 Mont Blanc, for one
- 37 Femur or ulna
- 38 Browned bread
- 39 Azure or navy
- 40 Finish
- 41 Brown shade
- 42 Exchange
- 43 Takes back, as one's offer
- 45 Unfair slants
- 46 Jamaica's official lang.
- 47 Humble; unassuming
- 48 __ pop; soft drink
- 51 About to occur
- 56 Is indebted to
- 57 Facial hair
- 58 __ lights; glow of a marquee
- 60 Escape
- 61 Big
- 62 Singer Marvin
- 63 Biting vipers
- 64 Go into
- 65 Rodent



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/31/12

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

APED	AMBLE	TELL
MENU	WOODED	IDEA
OTTO	ASSESSMENT	
SEE	ORES	TENSE
RANDY	GEL	
APPLES	PRAYER	
WORMS	BREAK	NAY
ASIA	GLEAM	OGRE
YES	ERUPT	SIREN
DEALER	HONORS	
TOY	MONKS	
SLOOP	BORG	SOS
CONNECTION	VINE	
ABLE	BELLE	INCA
BOYS	SALAD	AGES

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10/31/12

- 35 Noisy
- 38 Real; concrete
- 39 Decelerating
- 41 Rin Tin __
- 42 __ up; bound
- 44 Discontinues
- 45 Drinking spree
- 47 Come together
- 48 Couch
- 49 Hooting birds
- 50 As __ as the ocean
- 52 Cruel
- 53 Portion
- 54 Close by
- 55 Spanish artist
- 59 Tennis court divider

French government gets anti-sexism lessons

SYLVIE CORBET
THOMAS ADAMSON
Associated Press
PARIS (AP) — First there was Dominique Strauss-Kahn, who allegedly referred to women as “material,” then catcalls in the French Parliament just because a female government minister wore a floral dress. But when this month the French agriculture minister — in an interview about promoting gender equality — suggested that women couldn’t get their heads around technical jobs, that was too much. The prime minister of France — a country which produced feminist icons such as Joan of Arc and Simone de Beauvoir — has decided that his ministers need to go back to school for anti-sexism classes. On Jean-Marc Ayrault’s orders, the Equality Ministry has set up a series of 45-minute gender equality “sensitization sessions,” during which ministers are being trained to identify sexism in daily life and taught how to avoid sexist stereotypes in political communication. Organizers told The Associated Press that it’s a full class, with all 38 ministers signed up or in the process of registering. In the interest of gender equality, the female ministers are going, too. The goal, said organizer Caroline de Haas, is that ministers take time to think about sexism. “If you’re not vigilant, de facto inequalities are created,” she said. De Haas said 80 percent of politicians interviewed on French TV and radio broadcasts are men. She said she wants to fight against the “illusion” that France “has almost achieved equality” between men and women. France is now trailing in an unimpressive 48th place on the Global Gender Gap equality list. Earlier this month, in an interview with L’Express magazine, French Agriculture Minister Stephane Le Foll sparked controversy by saying: “I’ve tried to promote women as much as possible, even though some of our dossiers are very technical.”

Though Le Foll said his words were taken out of context — given that the interview was on the subject of gender equality — they nevertheless caused outrage and went viral on Twitter. As far as the public is concerned, sounds like some ministers need instruction. □



French President Francois Hollande, second right, and Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault, center, pose with women of the cabinet after the first weekly cabinet meeting, at the Elysee Palace in Paris. Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault has asked the French equality ministry to set up a series of 45 minute workshops, where politicians are given examples of sexism in daily life and with the aid of slide-shows taught how to avoid sexist stereotypes in political communication. (AP Photo/Michel Euler)

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Scientists look at climate change, the superstorm

By SETH BORENSTEIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Climate scientist Michael Oppenheimer stood along the Hudson River and watched his research come to life as Hurricane Sandy blew through New York.

Just eight months earlier, the Princeton University professor reported that what used to be once-in-a-century devastating floods in New York City would soon happen every three to 20 years. He blamed global warming for pushing up sea levels and changing hurricane patterns.

New York "is now highly vulnerable to extreme hurricane-surge flooding," he wrote.

For more than a dozen years, Oppenheimer and other climate scientists have been warning about the risk for big storms and serious flooding in New York. A 2000 federal report about global warming's effect on the United States warned specifically of that possibility.

Still, they say it's unfair to blame climate change for Sandy and the destruction it left behind. They cautioned that they cannot yet conclusively link a single storm to global warming, and any connection is not as clear

and simple as environmental activists might contend.

"The ingredients of this storm seem a little bit cooked by climate change, but the overall storm is difficult to attribute to global warming," Canada's University of Victoria climate scientist Andrew Weaver said.

Some individual parts of Sandy and its wrath seem to be influenced by climate change, several climate scientists said.

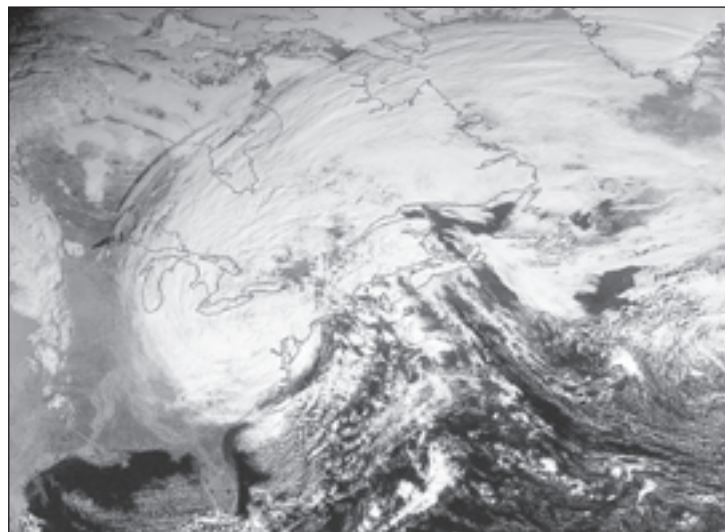
First, there's sea level rise. Water levels around New York are a nearly a foot higher than they were 100 years ago, said Penn State University climate scientist Michael Mann.

Add to that the temperature of the Atlantic Ocean, which is about 2 degrees warmer on average than a century ago, said Katharine Hayhoe, a climate scientist at Texas Tech University. Warm water fuels hurricanes.

And Sandy zipped north along a warmer-than-normal Gulf Stream that travels from the Caribbean to Ireland, said Jeff Masters, meteorology director for the private service Weather Underground.

Meteorologists are also noticing more hurricanes late in the season and even after the season. A 2008 study

said the Atlantic hurricane season seems to be starting earlier and lasting longer but found no explicit link to global warming. Normally there are 11 named Atlantic storms. The past two years have seen 19 and 18



This NOAA satellite image taken Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012, shows superstorm Sandy slowly moving westward while weakening across southern Pennsylvania. The National Weather Service said a foot and more of snow was reported in lower elevations of West Virginia, where most towns and roads are. High elevations in the mountains were getting more than two feet and a blizzard warning for more than a dozen counties was in effect until Wednesday afternoon.

Associated Press

named storms. This year, with one month to go, there are 19

After years of disagreement, climate scientists and hurricane experts have concluded that as the climate warms, there will be fewer total hurricanes. But those storms that do develop will be stronger and wetter.

blocked Sandy from going north or east, according to the National Hurricane Center.

Jennifer Francis of Rutgers University, an expert in how a warming Arctic affects extreme weather patterns, said recent warming in the Arctic may have played a role in enlarging or prolonging that high pressure area.

But she cautioned it's not clear whether the warming really had that influence on Sandy.

While components of Sandy seem connected to global warming, "mostly it's natural, I'd say it's 80, 90 percent natural," said Gerald North, a climate professor at Texas A&M University. "These things do happen, like the drought. It's a natural thing."

On Tuesday, both New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Gov. Andrew Cuomo said they couldn't help but notice that extreme events like Sandy are causing them more and more trouble.

"What is clear is that the storms that we've experienced in the last year or so, around this country and around the world, are much more severe than before," Bloomberg said. "Whether that's global warming or what, I don't know. But we'll have to address those issues."

Cuomo called the changes
“a new reality.”

"Anyone who says that there's not a dramatic change in weather patterns I think is denying reality," Cuomo said.

"I told the president the other day: 'We have a 100-year flood every two years now.'"

For his published research, Oppenheimer looked at New York City's record flood of 1821. Sandy flooded even higher. □

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Spielberg, Day-Lewis unite for epic 'Lincoln' tale

DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The task of encapsulating the essence of Abraham Lincoln in a single film took Steven Spielberg roughly three times as long as it took the 16th president to win the Civil War, abolish slavery and put the country on the course to recovery. Creating such a historical epic may not compare to the colossal task of saving a bloodily divided nation. But by Hollywood standards, "Lincoln" is as monumental as it gets, even for a couple of multiple Academy Award winners as Spielberg and the man he chose to play the president, Daniel Day-Lewis.

Born in Britain, Day-Lewis had to think about Lincoln not only as a towering historical figure, but also as a foreign statesman whose portrayal would be a sensitive matter for U.S. audiences that revere the president.

"Because of the nature of the iconography surrounding his life and the extent to which he is mythologized and carved in stone, it's very difficult to imagine that one could ever approach him, to get close enough," Day-Lewis said in a recent interview alongside Spielberg.

"I was very shy about the idea of taking on this. Plus, I like working here. I've been tremendously privileged in being able to work in this country over the years. The idea of desecrating the memory of the most-beloved president this country has ever known was just kind of a fearful thing to me," said Day-Lewis, who earned best-actor Oscars for "My Left Foot" and "There Will Be Blood."

Spielberg had long considered a film about Lincoln. He did not want to tell the whole life story, from Lincoln's rail-splitting days as a youth to his assassination right after the war ended. He also did not want to make a Civil War film loaded with grand battles or tell the story of a war through one man's eyes. Spielberg

already had done similar stories set in World War II with "Schindler's List," the Holocaust saga that won him best-picture and director Oscars, and "Saving Private Ryan," the combat epic that brought him his second directing trophy. His approach began to coalesce in 1999 when he met with historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, who was in the early stages of writing her mammoth book "Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln," a detailed chronicle of the unlikely alliances Lincoln formed with political opponents who initially considered him an unqualified upstart.

Her book traced the careers of Lincoln and his three competitors for the 1860 Republican presidential nomination and followed his White House years during the war through his assassination five years later. The notion of a politician turning bitter rivals into supporters and facilitators struck Spielberg as the ideal way to present the spirit of Lincoln.

Spielberg acquired film rights to Goodwin's book when only a few chapters had been written. As Goodwin labored away on the writing, Spielberg had to condense what would become a 950-page account into a story that could play out on the screen in two and a half hours.

An early draft of the screenplay by playwright Tony Kushner ("Angels in America") ran to 550 pages.

"It was a miniseries, not a motion picture," Spielberg said. "Brilliant pages, but certainly not a single motion picture or any practical motion picture. But from all of those pages, what stood out to me and really was shockingly apparent was almost the nexus of his entire existence as the president, which was abolishing slavery by a constitutional amendment, the 13th Amendment.

"And that to me became the focus that I wanted to put all of our efforts into, telling that story. Because

to see Lincoln at work, with his sleeves rolled up, with all the murky machinations of legislating a bill with a divided house not too dissimilar with what's happening today, and not too dissimilar to what was happening when we first sat down to tackle Doris' book. That to both Tony and me and seemed to offer the sort of drama, and it was almost the very end of his life."

So "Lincoln" takes its cue from the last couple of chapters in Goodwin's book, playing out from January to April 1865, as Lincoln marshals his allies in the seemingly impossible task of passing the amendment while negotiating peace — without letting one jeopardize the other.

"Lincoln" co-stars Sally Field as the president's forceful, high-strung wife, Mary Todd Lincoln; Joseph Gordon-Levitt as their oldest son, eager to enlist in the Union Army; David Strathairn as Secretary of State William Seward; and Tommy Lee Jones as firebrand abolitionist congressman Thaddeus Stevens.

Political veteran Seward had been the Republican front-runner in 1860, but the nomination went to dark horse Lincoln — a backwoods lawyer who had served just a single term in the U.S. House and lost two campaigns for U.S. Senate. Lincoln brought many opponents into his presidential fold, including Seward, whom he chose as secretary of state, "not unlike Barack Obama did with Hillary Clinton now as our secretary of state," Spielberg said.

Goodwin's study of the unlikely alliances Lincoln formed was critical to Day-Lewis' approach to capturing the character of a leader who used his soft-spoken gifts as storyteller and raconteur to disarm critics and coax them toward his way of thinking.

"The central premise of that book is terribly important in the clue that it gives you to the temperament of that man, who could set aside what for all of us might be



This publicity film image released by Walt Disney Pictures shows Daniel Day-Lewis portraying Abraham Lincoln in the film "Lincoln."

Associated Press

a sense of wounded pride or a sense of dignity that's been bruised in some way," Day-Lewis said. "He knew that he was regarded with almost complete contempt by most of those people that he appointed, and yet he could see beyond that, and it wasn't with the rather petty-minded platitude of 'keep your enemies close.'"

"It was more to do with a generous understanding of what the value of those individuals was at a vital time."

"Lincoln" opens in limited release Nov. 9 and nationwide Nov. 16, just after the U.S. presidential election. Spielberg knew he would be doing interviews leading up the election and that the story of Lincoln's "house divided" would draw comparisons to the gridlock in federal government today.

"But we all made the conscious decision to come out after the election for no other reason than Lincoln has his place," Spielberg said. "Lincoln is relevant to all of us today, but he had his place and he had his

time, and we wanted Lincoln to have his place and his time outside or just after the election cycle." □

How sweet it is!



Slovakian-born model Adriana Karembeu presents a chocolate studded dress, designed by Cecile Remy and made with the help of French chocolate maker Jean Luc Decluzeau, during the chocolate dress fashion show, as part of the 18th World Chocolate Fair, Paris, Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2012. (AP Photo/Jacques Brinon)

Justin Bieber, Nick Cannon honor teen volunteers



This June 20, 2012 file photo shows actress Emma Stone at the German premiere of the movie "The Amazing Spider-Man," in Berlin.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Justin Bieber, Emma Stone, Tyra Banks and Josh Duhamel are honoring U.S. teenagers who give back to their communities.

Each star will pay tribute to a teen volunteer at the fourth annual TeenNick HALO Awards. It is presented to young people who are "helping and leading others."

Nick Cannon, who created the awards show, will serve as its host and executive producer. It is set to tape Nov. 17 at the Hollywood Palladium and air as a 90-minute special on the Nickelodeon cable network on Nov. 19.

The four honorees come from across the United States and range in age from 16 to 19. One started an organization to help outfit low-income teenage girls. Another makes and distributes gift bags for breast cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. □

Actor Edward Furlong arrested at LA airport

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Authorities say actor Edward Furlong has been arrested at Los Angeles International Airport on suspicion of domestic violence.

Airport police say the star of "Terminator 2" and "American History X" was arrested after officers responded to an arrival area late Monday.

He was booked on suspicion of felony domestic violence involving a spouse or girlfriend. Police did not identify the person who Furlong allegedly injured. The actor's divorce from estranged wife Rachael Kneeland is pending. Jail records show the 35-year-old is being held on \$50,000 bail. His publicist R.J. Rousso did not immediately respond to phone and email messages seeking comment. □



In this Jan. 10, 2011 file photo, cast member Edward Furlong arrives at the premiere "The Green Hornet" in Los Angeles.

Associated Press



In this photo taken Monday, Oct. 29, 2012, actress Isolda Dychauk playing the character of Lucrezia Borgia waits for the start of the shooting of "Borgia" tv series, in Sermoneta, Italy.

Associated Press

European 'Borgia' drama proves to be a worldwide hit

TRISHA THOMAS

Associated Press

SERMONETA, Italy (AP) — Who doesn't love a wealthy family's bloody saga?

The Italian economy may be struggling but the pan-European television series "Borgia," which is now filming its second season in Italy, is a thriving hit on the world market.

Spanning the late Middle Ages to the early Renaissance period, the show follows the famous Borgia family's rise to power and subsequent domination of the Vatican and southern Europe's political landscape. A winning combination of sex, violence, faith, lust and betrayal, the primarily French-German production has been sold in 85 countries worldwide.

The first season follows the brutally ambitious Catalan Cardinal Rodrigo Borgia (played by U.S. actor John Doman) and his ruthless climb to become Pope Alexander VI. The second season, currently shooting, begins in 1494 and its focus slowly moves to his charismatic son Cesare Borgia (played by Irish actor Mark Ryder), the famed warrior prince who inspired Niccolo Machiavelli's "The Prince."

Ryder said the biggest challenge has been taking

his character from a whiny young boy in the first season to a "magnificent man of the Renaissance" in the second.

An Associated Press TV crew visited the set near Rome, where there are twenty-four different nationalities among the "Borgia" crew. Doman, best known for his role in the U.S. hit HBO TV series "The Wire" says it's a unique experience to work on such a multi-cultural production.

"We have all come from different places and we are all together working here on this project about a family and we've really kind of gelled as a family," he told the AP.

On the set, a stocky Italian charges across the courtyard of the Caetani Castle and yells, "Action, silenzio!" prompting a tall, blond German to lift a movie camera off a metal frame and an Italian stunt woman to hoist herself onto a horse. Dozens of extras immediately snap to attention.

Nearby in a black tent, a British director was following the action closely on a monitor while an Irish actor enjoyed a cigarette on his break, careful not to dirty his red velvet cardinal's robes.

The executive producer, American Tom Fontana,

says producers searched far and wide to assemble the talent working on "Borgia."

"We were always determined to have the best actors, the best designers, the most talented people here, regardless of what country they come from," he said. "Everyone who is here knows they are here because we think they are the best."

While the talent comes from around the globe, Irish actor Diarmuid Noyes (who plays Cardinal Alessandro Farnese) says the work ethic comes straight from their team of directors.

"Every day for eight months (they) are on the ball and they just bash it out, and they are shooting, shooting, shooting, shooting," he said. "They never let up!"

With a budget of €30 million (\$38.7 million), the second season of Beta Film's "Borgia" is being shot over eight months in both Italy and the Czech Republic. Italy alone will feature 20 separate locations.

According to Beta Film, "Borgia" was the highest-rated original series on Canal+ in France and in Italy on Sky Italia. On Germany's public broadcaster ZDF, the company said it was the fictional primetime winner every night. □

Sandy The Soothsayer



FRANK BRUNI

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If you've watched whole sections of your home sail away, been stranded in a shelter or can't make contact with a loved one whose safety isn't certain, it's probably unsettling at best – and galling at worst – to hear Sandy referred to as an "October surprise," on a par with a bimbo eruption or corruption scandal, wreaking havoc on the presidential race above all else.

But there's no solipsism like political solipsism, and this election has added people like few I've witnessed, with even the most peripheral developments and random polls scrutinized to smithereens for their outcome-auguring significance. Why should weather be exempt from such hyperventilation?

This week will be remembered as one when meteorology and punditry became strange bedfellows and a measure of perspective was gone with the wind.

I've read that Sandy will diminish the impact of homestretch advertising, because people whose electricity is out cannot watch TV. I've also read that Sandy will intensify the impact of homestretch advertising, because people whose electricity is not out are raptly monitoring local stations, where such advertising is concentrated.

It has been opined that Sandy could hurt President Barack Obama, disrupting early voting and depressing turnout. It has been opined that Sandy could help Obama, affording him the opportunity to look presidential as he marshals federal resources and directs the emergency aid effort. The wind-lashed tree outside my window is bending to the left, an omen clearly in the president's favor. But if I were looking at it from the building across the yard, it would be tilting right, an obvious nod for Mitt Romney.

Someone somewhere has no doubt produced a chart that breaks down storm categories and their electoral consequences.

Blizzards: pro-Romney. Snow evokes winter. Romney rescued the Winter Olympics. And one of his nicknames – Mittens – is an icy, slushy, flaky one.

Tsunamis: also pro-Romney. They affect coastlines, where cosmopolitan types cluster, and thus divert liberals' attention from the contest at hand, granting more power to the folks living in the fly-over.

Tornados: pro-Obama. They distract the folks in the flyover,

and are also known as twisters, which remind voters everywhere of Romney's pretzel of disparate positions over the course of his political career or, for that matter, the last five minutes.

And hurricanes?

From the Mother Jones website I learned that "all other things being equal, the incumbent party does less well when it's too wet or too dry," as opposed to when it's just right. This was the assessment of Larry Bartels, a professor of political science at Vanderbilt University who has apparently made a study of this.

But how does the incumbent party do when the moon is in the seventh house and Jupiter aligns with Mars? Who, pray tell, is making a study of that?

Obama suspended campaigning in order to man command central in Washington. This meant that a rally in Orlando, Fla., that he was supposed to do with Bill Clinton had to be headlined by Clinton alone. The former president, needless to say, was devastated. Joe Biden detoured from New Hampshire to Ohio, which is also where Clinton headed after Florida. Romney stumped there too. Will Ohioans never know a moment's peace?

The Obama and Romney campaigns think that dropping in on a swing state over and over again will win them favor, but that's questionable. Given the traffic jams, flight delays and hordes of sarcastic columnists that candidates bring with them, I wouldn't want a personal visit. Maybe just a gift basket.

As Sandy churned, so did the political panic. Would the storm down enough phone lines to impede daily tracking polls? A column in The Huffington Post articulated this dark fear, which I'd characterize instead as a delightful reprieve.

Would the surge of tides end the surge of Mitt, his momentum washed away by the storm's domination of the news?

And would the Labor Department seize on Sandy and the shutdown of federal offices as an excuse not to release new unemployment figures Friday, saying that work on them had been delayed? Republicans went into anticipatory conniptions, until officials with the department announced that there probably wouldn't be any lag.

Reality checks were imperative. The state whose cancellation of early voting was most often cited was Maryland. Obama doesn't need early voting to win Maryland. He almost doesn't need a pulse. And climate change was brought up. "It's as if Mother Nature is sending yet another message to American voters: Ignore me no longer," wrote Heather Taylor-Miesle, the director of the Natural Resources Defense Council Action Fund, in a blog post emailed to many journalists. Of course Obama and Romney themselves ignored climate change in their three debates. So maybe Mother Nature isn't so much putting her thumb on the scale as showing both candidates the back of her hand. □



President In Shining Armor



ROSS DOUTHAT

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Far in the future, long after today's partisan passions have cooled, some enterprising women's studies doctoral student will be able to write a fascinating dissertation on the rhetoric and iconography surrounding gender in President Barack Obama's 2012 campaign.

Such a dissertation might start with the Obama campaign's striking "Life of Julia" slide show, which portrayed an American woman protected from toddlerhood by the "steps President Obama has taken," and menaced at every turn by Mitt Romney's reactionary policies.

From there, it could touch on the campaign's unusual suggestion that Obama supporters use their wedding registries to solicit donations to the president's reelection effort. It might linger over the White House's elevation of Sandra Fluke, a progressive activist and Georgetown University law student, as a kind of martyr for free contraception after she was insulted by Rush Limbaugh. And it would probably conclude with the Obama campaign's release last week of a winking video from "Girls" creator Lena Dunham, urging young women to make sure their "first time" is with a "great guy" like Obama. (Their first time voting – what do you think she meant?)

To today's Obama supporters, these forays – like the campaign's broader "war on women" framing, and its recent attempts to make the election a referendum on abortion in cases of rape – just emphasize that the president is on the side of female empowerment, sexual,

professional and otherwise.

But given the way Obama's once-enormous edge among female voters has shrunk in many polls, tomorrow's feminists may look back on his campaign's pitch to women and see a different theme emerge: a weirdly paternalistic form of social liberalism, in which women are forever single girls and the president is their father, lover, fiancé and paladin all rolled into one. (Our future dissertation author may note with bemusement, for instance, that Dunham's ad mirrors a similar advertisement cut for . . . Vladimir Putin.)

This paternalistic pitch assumes that liberalism's traditional edge with women is built mostly on social issues, and that Democrats – especially male Democrats – win when they run as protectors of the sexual revolution, standing between their female constituents and the Todd Akins of the Republican Party.

But that conceit is probably wrong. The gap between men and women on issues like abortion is overstated, and the female preference for Democrats predates Roe v. Wade. In a recent blog post, Christina Wolbrecht of the University of Notre Dame calls the gender gap "a recurrent, if not consistent, feature of presidential elections throughout the postwar era," which probably dates to Barry Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign.

Not coincidentally, that was a year when Republican economic rhetoric took on a particularly individualistic cast. If there's a deep driver of the gender gap, it's usually views about spending and the role of government. Men are more likely to be libertarians, women are more likely to be communitarians, and this creates what Wolbrecht calls a natural "divergence in preferences for social welfare policies."

This helps explain why, among recent elections, the gender gap yawned widest in 1996 – not an election with many culture-war flash points, but a year when Bill Clinton relentlessly tied

Bob Dole to the congressional Republicans' attempted cuts to domestic spending and entitlements.

It also helps explain why Romney made ground with women after his performance in the first presidential debate – when he mostly pivoted toward the center on economic issues, and emphasized solidarity and community rather than "you built that!" individualism.

None of this means that the Obama White House's social issues appeals don't resonate with many female voters. But they're most successful as a form of narrowcasting – a pitch to a particular group of women, often younger and left-leaning and unmarried, rather than to the female population as a whole.

Which is why it once seemed safe to assume that Obama's social issues strategy was a way of solidifying his base, and a warm-up act for the fall campaign. He would extol Planned Parenthood and hail Sandra Fluke all summer, the theory went, and turn Clintonian and talk mostly about entitlements and economic security after his convention.

Instead, the idea of Obama as a kind of knight protector for America's Julias and Lenas and Sandras, waging a lonely counteroffensive in the war on women, has basically become the White House's concluding pitch not only to his base, but to female undecided voters as well. An imaginary Republican plot to ban contraception, the illusory threat that Romney would ban abortion in cases of rape, a wave of faux-chivalric outrage over Romney's line about "binders full of women" – in a tight-as-a-tick, economy-centric election, this is the message that Obama is relying on to push him back over the top.

Perhaps it will actually work. Perhaps the Electoral College will save the president. But I'll just say this: It's awfully hard to imagine Hillary Clinton closing out a campaign this way. □

New England rum tumbles back into the mix



A bottle of Newport Distilling's Thomas Tew Rum, a small batch rum, at the company's distiller in Newport, R.I., Oct. 28, 2012. New England craft distillers are turning their attention to an old favorite, rum.

(Ryan Conaty/The New York Times)

CLAY RISEN

© 2012 New York Times

NEWPORT, R.I. — Champagne may be the obvious drink of choice in this city of yachts and seaside estates, but a largely forgotten spirit haunts Newport.

More than 150 years after the last of this city's 22 rum distilleries shut its doors, streets still bear the names of prominent rum-making families. Yachtsmen still prefer to tip back Dark and Stormys, a cocktail made with Gosling's dark rum and ginger beer, after a run to Block Island. A boat called the Rum Runner II takes tourists on day trips.

"You talk to people and they say rum was huge here, but when you try to get the details, no one really knows why," said Brent Ryan, chief executive of the Newport Distilling Co.

After poring through archives at the Newport Historical Society for old recipes and production methods, Newport Distilling began in 2008 to make Thom-

as Tew Rum, the first legal liquor to be made locally since 1842, and Ryan's bid to put Newport rum back on the map. Last year, he started selling it statewide. A similar story can be heard along the New England coast from Maine to Nantucket, Mass., and as far west as the Berkshires. More than a half-dozen distilleries have opened in the years since Newport Distilling started, resurrecting a regional industry.

"There used to be so many distilleries in Massachusetts, even in Boston," said Maggie Campbell, the head distiller at Privateer Rum in Ipswich, Mass. "It's something that's been a little bit lost."

Rum, a distillation of sugar cane or a byproduct like molasses, can be made just about anywhere, like other spirits fashioned from ingredients that can be easily imported. And as interest in craft distilling has grown, new producers have sprung up in many

parts of the country. But the concentration of distillers in New England is unusual, mirroring the region's rich — and in some ways notorious — connection to the drink. Invented in the West Indies in the 17th century, rum caught on in the American colonies, where distillers began importing molasses and quickly created a major industry. At its peak in 1770, the colonies imported 6 million gallons of Caribbean molasses, much of which became rum in New England's 159 distilleries. The style varied widely, but it was said to be thicker and less sweet than its Caribbean cousin.

Almost all the rum was produced for domestic consumption, but a small amount was sold overseas — some to African slave traders in what was known as the triangle trade: Merchants sent rum to West Af-

going on, but it wasn't as vibrant or as vital as it appears in popular imagination," said Wayne Curtis, the author of "And a Bottle of Rum: A History of the New World in Ten Cocktails."

Part of the reason most of the rum stayed home was its quality. Rums made in Medford, Mass., were well regarded, but for most people the value of the region's rum was in its low price.

"New England rum was not always known for its Cognac-like flavors," said Mathew Perry, the founder and president of Turkey Shore Distilleries, also in Ipswich.

By the early 19th century, the industry had fallen into a steep decline. The British cut off access to cheap molasses, while the nation's rapidly expanding interior gave Americans a near-bottomless source of grain, which they used to make

duced food and drink, New England rum would get a second chance. And while it's too early to say whether a New England style exists, the new rums have much in common.

All are made in pot stills, which produce more robust, flavorful liquors, and are aged in oak barrels, with greater temperature swings than in St. Croix or Barbados. The result is drier than a typical rum, with a woody, earthy overtone.

"It's not what you expect from a Caribbean rum," Perry said. "It's a little smokier, a little more like bourbon." Still, unlike bourbon or tequila, rum has few rules. Indeed, what unites New England rum distillers is not so much the product as their shared interest in mining the history of regional rum manufacturing for inspiration.

Some, like Bully Boy and



Brent Ryan, the chief executive of Newport Distilling, at his company in Newport, R.I., Oct. 28, 2012. New England craft distillers are turning their attention to an old favorite, rum.

(Ryan Conaty/The New York Times)

rica in exchange for slaves to be sold in the Caribbean; there, sugar and molasses were bought and shipped to New England for the making of rum.

Just how much rum was exchanged for slaves remains a point of contention; many contemporary historians say the old claims that rum was a backbone of the slave trade have been overstated.

"There was some trade

whiskey.

"So whiskey in the 19th century displaced rum as the all-American tippie," Curtis said.

Most New England distillers closed shop in the 1800s, though the last major producer, the Lawrence distillery in Medford, kept on until 1905, when its owners took up the cause of Prohibition. It was perhaps inevitable that, with today's demand for traditional, locally pro-

GrandTen, both produced in Boston, use blackstrap molasses, which is relatively low in sugar and produces a dark, savory rum its makers say is similar to the historical style. Others, like Privateer and Turkey Shore, use Grade A molasses, which the rum makers say better resembles the molasses used in the 18th century, when the extraction process left more sugar behind. □